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GPO

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II. NUMBER 1. | FITCHBURG, MASS., JANUARY 3, 1891. | $2.00 PER YEAR. 5 CENTS A COPY.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

THE POPULAR

HOUSE FURNISHERS

Thanksgiving for 1890 is now a thing of the past. We have kept faith with our patrons and given them all a nice turkey who have purchased a Quaker Range of us, during the past three weeks, and they now know all about its superior baking qualities. So if any are still in doubt about the Quaker being the best range made, call and we will give them a few names in their immediate neighborhood, so they can make inquiries as to how they work.

Parlor Stoves and Oil Heaters.

The Grand Oil Heater is the only perfect Heating Stove made, using common kerosene for fuel. We are sole agents for this stove. We have a full line of coal stoves, and on some of them we are prepared to make special low prices. They are sample stoves and any one securing one of them will get a big bargain.

If you want anything in the house-furnishing line, either for cash or by our special credit system, come and see us. We can give you an assortment of goods at prices to defy all competitors.

Remember our number and be sure to find us.

222 MAIN ST.

OPERA HOUSE BLOCK,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

HON. SAMUEL L. GRAVES.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

Our mayor-elect is a native of Groton, Mass., and he is the son of John J. and Lucy Graves. He was born on July 18, 1847, and is, therefore, rather more than 43 years old. He received his early education and graduated from Lawrence Academy at Groton, and then entered Amherst College, where he graduated in 1870. He came to this city in 1870, read law in the office of Wood & Torrey for three years, and then entered an office of his own. He had been looked upon as a most suitable man for the office to which he is now elected for several years past, and has many times been urged to accept office, but with the exception of serving one term on the school board, has always refused. This year he was looked upon as the most eligible man to head the temperance party's ticket for mayor, and the handsome vote he received proved that he is looked upon with confidence and respect by men of all creeds and all classes of society.

Whispers and Rumors.

A large number of the Brown students at Providence applied to Shepard & Co. for positions as clerks during the holiday season, and many of them were accepted. The awkward manner in which they "did up" bundles caused much laughter among the patrons, and after a few days a half dozen or so were so well satisfied that they had mistaken their occupation that they tendered their resignations. This will be interesting to the Brown students who are home for the holidays.

Editor Smith of the Newburyport *News* thirsts for money and fame. This is what he editorially announces: "There are now numbered 9,600 millionnaires and several whose yearly income is said to be over a million. John Swinton says that the present century will witness an American billionaire. We respectfully announce ourselves as candidates for the position." Wants to be a billionnaire. That's good for a newspaper man.

Pittsfield, Mass., has just entered the sisterhood of cities, and this is what the Pittsfield *Journal* says: "The secretary of the Board of Trade saw several parties in New York last week in relation to the establishment of factories in this city. Each one would employ over 700 hands, and one probably double the number. Other places have offered inducements which Pittsfield may not be able to meet, but it is quite likely that the whole board will be called together to consult about the matter. In each case nothing can be done until January, when the city will be visited by parties interested. Just now they have returned to England, in two instances. It does not seem quite advisable to print the names of the parties with whom negotiations are in progress, for it only informs some other Board of Trade and adds to the number of competitors. The ambition of every town seems to be to add to its manufacturing interests, and many towns give not only land but buildings." These are probably the two companies we have referred to once or twice.

Most people have the idea that the well-known Scotch song "Coming Through the Rye," which probably will be one of the numbers on the concert programme to be given in connection with Burns' anniversary, refers to a field of grain rather than to the Scotch river Rye. We all have seen illustrations with the grain field, and seldom if ever one depicting a river with a lad and lass crossing it. The reason for this may or may not be obvious, but the truth of the matter is, that the Rye of the song was a river, which the country folks crossed on stepping stones. If a lad should meet a lass crossing this river, he had the privilege of kissing her. The lass was practically helpless, both her hands being employed in holding up her skirts, and when met by a youth she must either submit to being kissed or drop and wet her skirts, to give him a sound whack across the ear. Not only were all the bonnie lasses so sensible as to invariably receive the kiss, but many of them used to "hang about the Rye" until they saw a lad on the other side, when they would, as if alone, grasp their skirts and begin to cross. We do not intend to tell where we got our information, or to intimate that we procured it from a Scotch townsman, who knew from practical experience what he was talking about. We give the facts above because we think they will be interesting to our readers and to the patrons of the coming concert under our Scotch residents. Lets change the name of the Nashua and put some stepping stones across at a convenient place. It would greatly ease traffic over the bridges, would'nt it.

An Old Fashioned Winter.

Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefers, Heavy Suits, Furs, Fur Caps, Fur Coats, Robes, Blankets, and Warm Underclothing are in great demand.

H. A. GOODRICH & CO.

Carry a large stock of these goods, which they propose to sell at prices to meet all competition.

Everything in winter goods, that we have in stock, will be sold at a price that will make it an object to buy now while winter is upon us.

Those who wait till spring for bargains, this year, may get left.

While the weather is cold, we are warmed up for business, and will let the winter goods go at spring prices.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers,

Hatters, and Furriers.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

THEREFORE,

We would respectfully advise our patrons that to

SELECT PURCHASES NOW

Will ensure them the pick of a large stock, and also save the rush and jam of the last week.

Nichols & Frost.

Christmas Goo
—AT THE—
SOUTH ST. GROCERY,
CHOICE LINE O
FRESH CANDIES,
ORANGES,
NEWUTS,
GRAPES,
MAPLE SYRUP
POPORN,
EDWARDS DESICCATEDUPS,
very nice. Try them.
PERLEY HOLMI

A. R. CHILT
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIOS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL S

Girard & Irish.
OUR OPENING OF
Christmas Noves
TAKES PLACE
TO-DAY, DEC.
Everybody is invited to atten
remember that the ear
comers get the Plums.
GIRARD & IRISH
ONE PRICE
Dry Goods, Cloaks & Milli
212 Main St., Fitchburg

Whispers and Rumors.

A recent issue of the *Worcester Telegram* said: "The gingham mill, which should have located here, will go to Fitchburg; though there is a consolation that is to be a Worcester county industry. Fall River people are after the plush manufacturers of Bradford, Eng., who are contemplating establishing a factory in this country." We can give our Board of Trade a point or two about the plush firm mentioned. The firm alluded to wishes to remove a portion of its factories to this country and prefers at present, to hire premises rather than to build. This firm's plant in England covers 16 acres of land and employs 4000 persons. The firm has a world-wide reputation, and, like the Mitchell concern, sends large quantities of goods to this country every month. More information if needed, Board of Trade.

Among the amusement going public this week there has been a very free discussion on the performance known as "The Clemenceau Case." Considerable interest centered in the piece from the fact that Maurice Barrymore was to figure in it, to take the prineipal male part in fact. In the character of Edgar Temple, recently performed, Mr. Barrymore made a lasting impression, and the play here, and in many other places outside the great cities, captivated the audiences. It was of a tragic and rather unnatural turn, but caught the people's fancy and drew large audiences. When, therefore, Mr. Hill suddenly announced that he should withdraw it and produce the play first named, people were naturally surprised. The play, even though a powerful one, had received a most unpleasant fame, and most people were surprised that a man like Mr. Hill would stake his reputation on it or that Mr. Barrymore would care to star in it. Reckless Temple was, to use Mr. Barrymore's own words, sandbagged by the New York critics, and after going through the different cities it returned there unchanged, only to receive the same treatment again. Mr. Hill then decided to lay the play aside for awhile and try something else. He looked over the Clemenceau Case, called Mr. Barrymore's attention to it and asked him to look it over. The two men saw its good as well as offensive features, decided to produce it for its *good* points, and did so. Under their management the play was not objectionable, but the reputation given it by others still clings to it and will in spite of all that can be done. Mr. Hill will run the play but a little while longer, only while deciding what he will next produce. The present week will probably be Mr. Barrymore's last with the play. He is engaged in part writing a play for himself and has read about 40 others while in New York, but none answered his purpose. He hopes to have his wife with him when her health recovers. She is a very talented actress. For a short time Mr. Barrymore's connection with Mr. Hill will cease, only, however, because the former desires to change plays and the latter has nothing at present in which he can use Mr. Barrymore.

There is considerable curiosity to know something of the new Mayor's Inaugural address and what he will advocate for new departures; also what he will have to say concerning the various branches of the city government as they now are. Have patience a little longer, gentlemen, and that document will speak for itself. He has ample opportunities to know all the ins and outs, and his experience will be worth something, as the days of the new year glide on and make up the municipal record of 1891.

MAPLE GROVE FARM
SAUSAGES
. BETTER THAN THE
DEERFOOT SAUSAGES.
TRY THEM!
—AT—
CENTRAL MARKET,
304 Main Street.
GEO. H. RANDEL.

Tenney's
TRADE MARK
NEW YORK.
BUTTERCUPS,
CHOCOLATES,
BONBONS,
—AT—
E. M. READ'S.

Whispers and Rumors.

The Lynn *Press* is authority for the story that some boys in St. Charles, Mo., chased a squirrel and it went up a telegraph pole and ran out on the electric wire. It hopped along cheerily and nimbly until it struck a spot where the insulation was defective. Instantly its tail was cocked straight up and it gave a little squeal. A blue blaze enveloped it and it dropped from the wire thoroughly roasted. The boys tried to eat it, but gave it up, saying it had a brimstony flavor. This is a rather hard dose to swallow, but the *Press* is such a highly moral paper that we won't say anything.

Several daily papers, among them our esteemed friend the old reliable *Sentinel*, have printed a story to the effect that a man in Carbondale, Penn., asked Stanley, the other day, why his men when they were dying for want of food didn't fish, since they were so near the river. And Stanley is reported to have looked at his questioner as if dazed by a blow, and after several moments to have replied, "Why, I don't believe any one ever thought of it." The man then went on to recommend him to take a Yankee with him the next time he goes to Africa. That's a fish story and the man who started it is a fake.

A Mr. J. O. King of Providence offered a prize of a beautifully executed steel engraving of George Washington to any weekly publication which should not, in last week's issue, contain either of the following words: McKinley, Parnell or Football. There was only one competitor, The *Shroud* of New York, an undertaker's paper. Now the witty Mr. King rises to ask whether the editor of the *Shroud* will have a postage stamp or two cents in cash. Look out, King, perhaps he will hit you with a casket and then you may need a shroud.

The latest swindling dodge has made its appearance at Lewiston, Me., Rome, N.Y., and one or two other places. At Lewiston the dodge cost certain business men about $300. It is easily worked, and should it chance to fail the swindler has a good chance to escape before he is caught. A note written on official postal paper and signed with the name of the postmaster is sent by a boy toward the close of business hours to some large business house, stating that the available funds are a trifle short and it is feared there is not enough to last through for the payment of money orders and other disbursements. A loan under these circumstances of about $50 would be most convenient. As it is at the busiest and most critical part of the business-day, but little attention is given to the matter and $50 is hurriedly counted out and given to the messenger boy. The boy receives his orders at the hands of a man standing at a street corner, and he hurries back to him, is liberally rewarded and departs. There is evidently a gang engaged in the work, and they are likely to turn up anywhere at the most unexpected time.

The newly elected mayor of Milwaukee has opened a crusade against improper theatrical lithographs. Theatrical managers who use such lithographs usually suffer by it now-a-days. There was a time when they attracted people to the theatre, but at present they usually keep away the patrons of the high-priced seats and do not attract enough of the cheaper patrons to make up the deficiency. They are besides a shame and a disgrace to any city, and it is hoped that mayors of other cities will follow the example of the mayor of Milwaukee.

Jay Gould says he believes in the sons of rich men learning trades, and states that he thinks wealthy men would feel more secure if they had learned some trade while in college. He says: "I have learned that in the case of my own family. My son George is an expert telegrapher, and when he has travelled with me to the West we generally live in our car and switch it off at a siding. My son will then put on his boots, his steel clamps or prongs, and go up the telegraph pole, attach the wire to his instrument in the car, and then he sends for me all my telegraph messages. It does him no disparagement and makes him feel that he could get his living at all times." Mr. Gould did not positively state this to a representative of this paper, and there is every reason for believing that his son George knows on which side his bread is buttered.

IF YOU WANT

CUT FLOWERS,

PLANTS or FLORAL DESIGNS,

WILLIAM KISS & CO.,

Have the largest and best collection and the lowest prices.

ROSES, CARNATIONS * * AND VIOLETS

A SPECIALTY

LEAM GARDENS, 17 and 19 Pearl Hill Road

Telephone 224-2.

MIAL DAVIS,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

LUMBER.

Steam Mills for Dressing and Manufacture of House Finish.

Birch Flooring and Moulding a Specialty.

LIVERY, BOARDING

—AND—

SALE STABLE.

GUY WOODS, Proprietor,

ACADEMY ST., - REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.

First-class Horses and Carriages for hire. Orders promptly attended to. Accommodation for fifty horses. Best care and feed at all times.

GUY WOODS,

REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.

E. J. MOORE & CO.

190 MAIN STREET.

OUR CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES

—FOR—

HOLIDAY TRADE

are complete and we will make a SPECIAL REDUCTION on all our

LADIES', MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S

CARMENTS

For CHRISTMAS WEEK, and a present will be in reach of all.

You will save money by visiting their Cloak Department.

EUGENE F. STONE.

CARRIAGE PAINTER,

BETWEEN

BROOK AND VINE STS.

Entrance on Vine St.

January Greeting 1891,

—OF—

KIMBALL & CO.

WE WILL

SAVE YOU

FROM

$1.00 to $6.00

On December prices of an Overcoat or Ulster.

Not a garment has escaped the pruning knife, for we are determined to reduce the stock immediately.

Our east window will give you an inkling of what has been going on inside the store in the way of revising prices.

Come in and see for yourself.

KIMBALL & CO.

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

The Somerville *Citizen* says: "Some one wants to know why the house designers don't put the ranges in the basement. With the ordinary "girl" to keep open drafts, and a coal bin close by, enough heat might be generated to operate a hot water system that would heat the whole house." Very good, *Citizen*, but if you want to economize on coal have the kitchen in the garret and the coal bin in the basement, and make the hired girl carry the coal up herself. She'll show you how to economize on coal then.

A Mrs. Amelia Lewis of Worcester has brought suit against Dr. O. Preston Sweet of Boston, to recover the sum of $130 which she claims she paid defendant and for which she claims she has received no equivalent. Mrs. Lewis' side of the story is that she called at Dr. Sweet's office on November 3d of this year to consult him with regard to her health, which was in a troublesome state and a cause of much alarm and apprehension to her. After the doctor looked his patient over he told her she was thoroughly in the clutches of disease. Every vital part in her body, Dr. Sweet told her, as she claims, was in the clutches of the grim monster, and if she would not let him prescribe for her she would fill an early grave.

As a necessary preliminary to the treatment, which was to result in his patient's restoration to health, the doctor wanted her to advance several sums of money. At first the woman declined to do this. After considering what the doctor had said, however, she became thoroughly alarmed and gave him permission to furnish a bottle of medicine for her, which she took home. On the following day she called at the doctor's office again. Then she told him that she decided not to make use of his services any further. The doctor replied that on the preceding day she had made an agreement with him that he should prescribe for her for a certain consideration, and that if she did not live up to her contract he would take means to force her to it. Finally by his threats and persuasive eloquence, she says, he induced her to make an agreement to pay to him $340, for the treatment which he would give her. On his part he promised to render a full equivalent for the money received, assuring her that she would leave his hands a well woman. He even said he would give a certificate agreeing to no pay if not cured.

The woman foolishly agreed to the terms and had soon paid him $130, and was given half a dozen brief treatments. Dr. Sweet gave no certificate, and the course of treatments ended without his having performed, to the satisfaction of his patient, the work which he set out to do. Suit was accordingly brought. Dr. Sweet, on the other hand, says the woman misunderstood the purport of his remarks. He made no binding agreement with the woman, and did not threaten or abuse her, as the plaintiff alleges. He performed his services like any physician and received part payment for the same. With a regular practicing physician, who has any standing in a community, the first consideration is to relieve suffering and get his pay afterwards. Some time ago we had an article on quack doctors and the particulars of this case are very similar to some given in the article referred to.

The *Critic* says: "Mark Twain and the Rev. Joseph H. Twitchell of Hartford, who are firm friends, were recently riding out into the country together on their bicycles, when Twain suddenly took a "header." The clergyman slowed up and was about to dismount to aid his friend, when Twain said: 'Don't stop, Joe; go right along. I think I'll stop here awhile to swear.'"

WALLACE NICHOLS,

DEALER IN

SLEIGHS AND PUNGS

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

THE CELEBRATED KEENE SLEIGHS

—AND—

BAILEY PORTLANDS, AT LOWEST PRICES.

G. W. Weymouth's Repository,

453, 455 & 457 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

This has been *The Week of Rush*, for Holiday Goods, and we propose to keep it up for *another week*.

We have piled our counters with goods suitable for presents, from 5 cts. upwards. Handkerchiefs all prices. Silk Mufflers, 50 cts. to $1.50. Hoods, Fascinators, Jackets, Leggins, Boots, Mitts, Kid Mittens, fur tops, for Ladies and Children, 50 cts. to $1.00. Fancy Goods, Toys, etc., in great variety, bought for *cash*, and will be sold low.

Come and see us for we have the goods you want.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 MAIN STREET.

GERMANTOWN YARN,

12½ Cts. a Skein.

A Large Assortment of Colors.

Full Weight Skeins.

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

Come in and See

MY NEW LINE OF

WALL PAPERS,

MOULDINGS,

Window Shades, &c.

Window Shades made and hung to order.

GEO. Z. PAGE

359 MAIN STREET.

Just received a new lot of fleece lined and print wrappers that I shall sell very cheap.

Ladies' kitchen aprons, extra large size, 25 cents each. All kinds of children's aprons.

For the next 30 days I shall sell my ready-made suits very cheap, I have Cashmeres, Henrietta, Ladies' Cloth, Serge, Plaids, Satin, etc.

These can be found at

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER'S

CITY HAIR STORE,

183 Main Street. Up Stairs.

OPPOSITE MACY'S.

Town Tattle.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

It is said that Mayor Hayden may possibly be a candidate for the office of city solicitor this year. The general opinion however, seems to be that Mr. Pierce will be his own successor.

Bishop O'Reilly of Springfield will administer confirmation at St. Bernard's church tomorrow. Dr. Garrigan of the Catholic University at Washington will be present and preach on "Christian Education." Doubtless the church will be packed on the occasion.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen gave a successful ball, at city hall, Wednesday evening. There was a good number of couples in attendance and the Brotherhood will doubtless have realized a neat little sum for the treasury of the Order. The decorations were not elaborate but very pretty and showed good taste.

Kellar, master of the black art, etc., gave an excellent performance at the opera house last night. He had a good audience and his many wonderful tricks gave entire satisfaction and met with great applause. His program is quite varied and embraces legerdemain, magic, spiritualism, mystery and science. He is a wonder in his particular line and is ably supported by his clever assistants.

Wonders never cease. Only a few days ago one of our citizens was visited by a tramp (apparently) who, on being questioned as to what he wanted, asked for—bread? no, but *a piece of soap*. The needful was supplied, as he seemed to need it, and the only regrets we have in connection with this item is that no enterprising grocer has given us five dollars to tell *whose* soap he asked for.

A Fitchburgian who delights in skipping the light fantastic toe often goes to Leominster. He claims that it is akin to cruelty to animals not to open the waiting room nights, or rather mornings, so that those who come from the hot ball-rooom may wait inside until the theatre train arrives. When a dance closes about midnight the dancers come into the open air and catch cold waiting on the platform, in a zero temperature, for the arrival of the train at Leominster.

"Jule" Alexander's friends are perhaps a little disappointed that he did not get the Boston *Record's* diamond pin, but the odds were too great in favor of the Hub. However, Jule received a most flattering vote, and if it needed anything to prove how popular he is, that would do it; but it does not, as he is liked by every one who knows him. Just think for a moment of the number of votes cast in this and the *Globe's* late voting contest—perhaps nearly ten millions—and what a picnic the junk dealers will have out of it.

A grand new story, the work of Ernest A. Young, will shortly commence in this paper. Full announcement in next week's issue. The story will be one of more than ordinary interest.

Mrs. Howard closed a very successful dancing class at Leominster Centre, Tuesday evening last and quite a number from this city were present. She will open a class at North Leominster next Tursday.

F. D. Whipple, real estate agent, who has the sale of the Wilderwood park estate at Whalom, has now sold 11 cottage lots. One has been purchased by a Boston lady who will commence the erection of a cottage as soon as spring opens. This will make at least four cottages to be erected this spring. An avenue 50 feet wide has been graded and sidewalks and other improvements will be made this year.

One of our citizens saw a disgraceful sight on Circle street on Thursday morning. Two boys, apparently not more than 10 years old, were completely under the influence of liquor. One was so drunk that he dropped in the snow and had to be carried into the house, and the other was staggering around in a maudlin condition. Parents who will allow their young children to get into such a disgraceful condition ought to be put in jail.

A rumor has been started that Officer Flanagan has not resigned his position on the local police force for the purpose of entering business with his son who runs a drug store on Water street, but to take a position on the state detective force, secured for him through the influence of Gen. J. W. Corcoran of Clinton. There is some surprise felt that the city council has not taken any action on his resignation. Is he not as much entitled to an honorable discharge as firemen are who resign?

A gentleman who went to the performance of "The Clemenceau Case," Tuesday evening, when asked if he thought it was a very immoral presentation replied that he did not consider it any more so than some of the dances given in this city that are attended by some of the best citizens. The low necked dress worn by Iza was no worse than one worn by the wife of a most estimable citizen at a gathering recently. He was satisfied that there was a lot of uncalledfor talk about the piece and his views are shared by quite a number.

NOW IS THE TIME

—TO HAVE—

TRIMMING

AND

PRUNING

DONE.

ORDER SLATE AT STORES OF

H. A. HATCH, 204 Main St.

H. F. ROCKWELL, 401 Main St.

G. H. CHASE,

8 HAWES ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

TONS OF

CHRISTMAS CANDY

—AT—

W. M. GRAY'S.

Thirteen of the Up-town Merchants will give a XVI. Century Oak Chamber Set to the Lady or Gentleman having the most tickets representing Cash Sales by the Merchants.

WE ARE IN IT. For every Cash purchase of twenty-five cents from us during the next 60 days, we give a ticket. Chamber Set to be seen in the window of the FITCHBURG FURNITURE CO.

Two pounds of Christmas Candy for 25 cts. Good Mixed Candy for 13 cts. a pound.

W. M. GRAY, 389 Main St.

NO. 180.

WE ARE HEADQUARTERS FOR

MEERSCHAUM
BRIAR
GERMAN WEISCHEL
and all kinds of
PIPES

EVERY ASSORTMENT AT ALL PRICES.

FINEST BRANDS

TOBACCO AND CIGARS.

Unequalled Goods for Christmas Time.

Jottings by the Way.

Send us $2 and have TOWN TALK delivered at your house 52 Saturdays.

It is the duty of every good citizen to become interested in what is going on in the place where he lives. This is necessary in order that he may become identified with it—a duty every citizen owes to the place of his residence. What better way to become acquainted with city affairs than to take a local paper?—[Ex.

E. B. Macy has got an electric clock. If he will get an electric machine to bundle up bananas, Brother Macy will be ahead of the times.

If you have any little items of interest TOWN TALK will be glad to give them space.

A party of Odd Fellows will dance the happy hours away at Landlord Lovell's, Ashburnham, on Jan. 20.

A happy new year to everybody. May all of us live to the end of '91 and be able to again wish each other the same greeting a year today.

The public schools will re-open on Monday.

England's favorite elocutionist, Mrs. Scott Siddons, is filling several important engagements in this state. She is a woman of great ability and rare personal charms.

It is reported that one of our young tailors will soon leave town for a brief spell, and when he returns will bring back with him a helpmate. May he be blessed with the seed of prosperity.

This is meant simply as a pointer for those who intend to patronize the opera house Tuesday evening next. Richard Golden in Old Jed Prouty makes it a point to commence at 8 o'clock sharp. If the performance does not commence then it will not be his fault. Be in time.

Gately & Co., Day street, have something of interest in another column.

The American Protective League, which has a membership of 90 persons in this city, will give an excellent entertainment in city hall Monday evening. A general invitation is extended to all.

The annual meeting of the Fusileers takes place Monday.

The Fitchburg Band will have a sociable, sale and general good time at city hall on Wednesday, Jan. 14.

The famous Plymouth Rock Pants company opened a store at A. B. Lawrence's old stand last night.

Sleigh parties are now the rage. Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.'s employes went to Clinton, Wednesday evening and partook of the fatted calf—or rather the New year's turkey.

The "South End Club" gave another social dance in Music Hall, Wednesday evening. The clubs dances are becoming quite proper.

Coachman Metcalf and his new conveyance make quite a big ad. for the Fitchburg house. If Landlord Judkins could find a livery and plug hat for Mr. Metcalf the turn out would be quite the thing. Put on a tiger and it would be quite English you know.

One of the best and strongest attractions announced at the opera house this season is the very popular Boston Theatre Company, for Friday evening Jan. 9, under the arrangement of Eugene Tompkins, which will present the well known American and English success, Conquest and Merritt's sensational play entitled "Mankind," which was for many weeks in Boston last season, and one hundred nights in New York. Although a melodrama full of stirring and exciting scenes, and many novel and realistic effects, it tells an excellent story with a strong moral. A special car is required for the transportation of the scenery etc. of the company. One noticeable effect is on a steamer in the English channel from which a woman is thrown, and while obscured for a moment by the rising fog, a full rigged sloop sails on and tacking, finally rescues her. This is said to be one of the most beautiful and effective scenes ever played upon the stage.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.

227 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

We invite the public to call and inspect our

New Glassware.

We have a new kind—Very Handsome.

Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.

LARGE LINE OF

CROCKERY AND PLATED WARE.

F. A. BLANCHARD, PROPRIETOR.

WALTER CONANT,

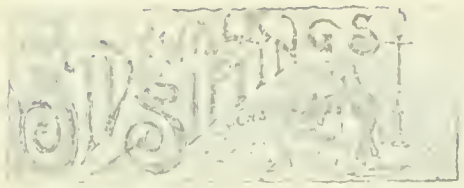
FISH AND OYSTERS

Fresh all the time, and includes the best varieties. Everything kept in a first-class fish market.

WALTER CONANT,

6 1-2 MAIN STREET.

F-I-S-H.



WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That more money should be spent on the streets and sidewalks next year.

That this is a real old fashioned New England winter. Send TOWN TALK particulars of your sleigh parties.

That much interest is felt as to what course the new mayor will adopt towards the saloons between now and May 1.

That the best (and only) way to find out what the mayor's inaugural address will cover is to go to city hall Monday, and hear what he has to say.

That the new mayor has kept very quiet, and discussion as to what he will do has in a great measure been very one-sided—not much being on his side.

That many persons who went to see the Clemenceau Case think it is about as good a way as any not to judge anything too soon. Better hear both sides of a case before making up a verdict.

That people would be glad to hear what progress the new Schumann Club is making. Some of the best male voices in the city are connected with it, and the public will be interested in its welfare.

That at this season of the year the just and the unjust alike stand in slippery places. Yes, and both quite often take very unceremonious tumbles, to the amusement of both righteous men and sinners.

That blessed be those who will put sand, sawdust, ashes or something else on the sidewalks in front of their stores or dwellings, in an icy time, and thereby prevent their fellowmen from standing on their heads involuntarily.

That the hens seem to have taken knowledge of the human species and made a "corner" on eggs. They are 40 cents per dozen and scarce at that. The biddies ought to be ashamed of themselves not to be satisfied with that price.

That certain young "gentlemen" who make it a regular business to stand on the street corners and stare at young ladies as they pass by, would be entitled to the name of gentlemen if they would exhibit a decent show of politeness.

That the interest in the presidency of the council and superintendent of streets is not so great as last year and year before. It is very generally understood that the former is decided upon. Some work has been done in Mr. Larkin's behalf for the latter position, but the majority seem to think Mr. Battles is good enough for the present, however.

OAK CHAMBER SET,

TEN PIECES,

GIVEN AWAY FREE.

Trade with the following firms, all representative men. A card given with every twenty-five cent purchase. Call for the cards when purchasing. Cards to be returned before Feb. 17, 1891. Chamber Set may be seen at FITCHBURG FURNITURE CO.'s.

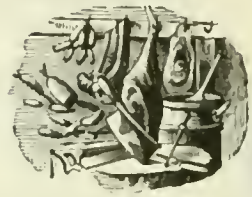
ALL SALES TO BE FOR CASH.

W. M. Gray, Grocer, 389 Main St.
E. H. Burbank, Boots and Shoes, 367 Main St.
T. C. Seed & Co., Tailors, 357 Main St.
Geo. Z. Page, Paper Hangings, 359 Main St.
A. E. Rogers, Jeweler, 366 Main St.
Fitchburg Furniture Co., 335 Main St.
W. E. Taggart, Provisions, 405 Main St.
L. Sprague & Co., Crockery and Carpets, 382 Main St.
J. C. Sanborn, Stationery, 371 Main St.
G. B. Knowlton, Hardware, 348 Main St.
W. F. Kimball, Boots and Shoes, 349 Main St.
U. E. Cleveland, Clothing, 354 Main St.
Hanna & Markham, Wood and Coal, office 389 Main St.

IF YOU WANT
PURE LIFE AND ENDOWMENT
INSURANCE
ON LOW RATE STOCK PLAN,
BUY IT OF
THE TRAVELLER'S INS. CO
OF HARTFORD, CT.
CHAS. E. KIRBY, Agent.
Eight Million Dollars new business since 1890.
No estimates, but everything guaranteed.

A. H. BURGESS,
Druggist
AND APOTHECARY
248 MAIN STREET.
FITCHBURG, - - - - - MASS.
COR. OLIVER ST

MEAT, POULTRY
—AND—
GAME!



Choicest Meats, Poultry, Fruits, and Vegetables
—AT—
TAGGART'S MARKET,
405 MAIN STREET.
Full line of dried and smoked meats.
Everything of first quality.
Christmas Supplies a Specialty.

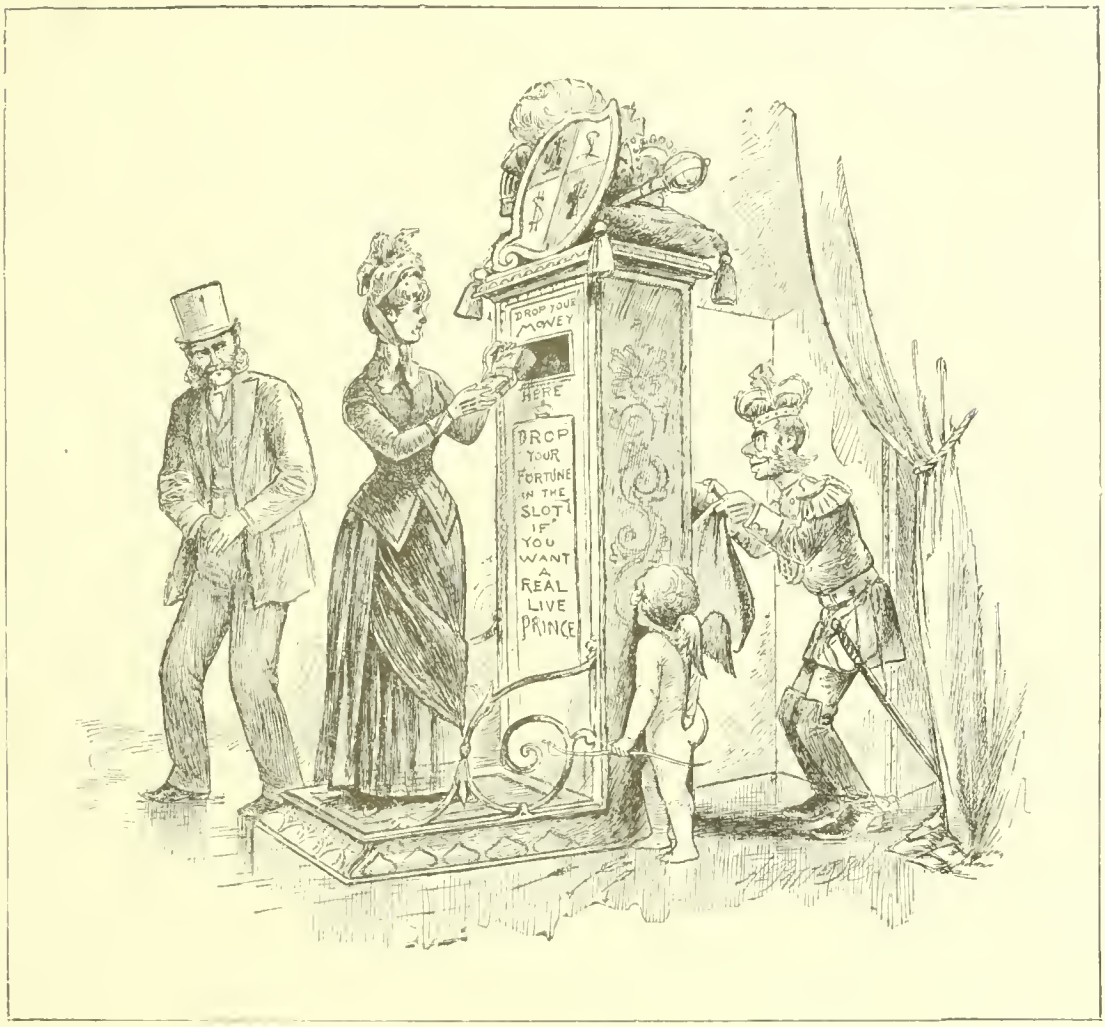
A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,
153 & 378 MAIN ST.,
FITCHBURG, MASS.

FLOUR.
Very Best Haxall, - $6.50
Very Best Roller, - - 5.75

CONFECTIONERY.
30 c. Chocolate Drops, 20 c.
60 c. Bonbons, - - - 45 c.
Nice Mixture, - - - - 15 c.
Choice Mixture, - - 20 c.

ALL CHOICE, FRESH GOODS.

1000 SHINERS AND CHUBS.
PLENTY OF REELS FOR SALE OR TO LET.
Oysters are higher but remember we still have the Celebrated
FAIRHAVEN OYSTERS.
And sell for 40 cents a quart just the same, solid meat.
H. A. KNIGHT,
36 DAY STREET, OPPOSITE HOSE 4.



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USE
DERMILAVE!
For chapped hands, lips and face, is neither stieky nor greasy, dries instantly, and is elegantly perfumed.
NO LADY'S TOILET
COMPLETE WITHOUT IT.
Prepared only by
D. H. JOEL,
DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

ALFRED DOLGE
FELT SLIPPERS,
ALSO A FULL LINE OF
CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS!
For Ladies and Gents.
We put the Wilson Clasp on all Lace Boots we sell, free of charge. Try them.
All Goods Warranted as represented.
D. H. PIERCE'S
CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,
185 Main St.

COAL.
ALL GRADES AND SIZES.
REMEMBER,
25 c. per Ton Off
FOR SPOT CASH.
Now is the time to place your winter orders with
Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,
23 WATER STREET.

I don't know whether any member of the Board of Health ever travels around late at night or not, or whether this matter concerns them, but if they do not I can give them one or two points. My olfactory nerves are none too sensitive I imagine, but I sometimes run against things that seem to me to need looking into. There are in different parts of the city stables hemmed in by dwellings or other buildings and the fumes from the stables are anything but pleasant. I am not prepared to say that it is decidedly unhealthy, but I question if it is decidedly healthy, and sometimes I wonder that the people around these places do not complain. I have in mind a stable surrounded by houses etc.; there is only a narrow entrance to it and sometimes it sends a volume of perfume down the alley that would stifle a donkey. If you doubt it walk up Day street some evening.

I want to say a word or two in behalf of the janitor at city hall. He is not perfect; neither is any one else, and although he has some little failings he makes a good janitor. Few men would care for the hall and city property as he does and it is not a very pleasant or easy birth after all. There is a good deal to contend with, as all sorts of people use the hall, some reasonable and some unreasonable. The janitor has often a hard time of it. Attending the hall on occasion of balls etc., he many times does not leave there till 2, 3 and 4 a. m.; then again the work of cleaning up after large gatherings is sometimes considerable and all will admit that the premises are kept scrupulously neat and tidy. To do it requires hard work and patience. People who go around the hall mornings and not finding the janitor sometimes fuss and swear, but they should bear in mind that a janitor is only human and must have some rest after a late session on the previous night. I do not wish to have you think the janitor is an angel without wings or that he is the model janitor, but that he is a careful and painstaking servant who is often deserving of more credit than he gets.

One thing which appears to be deeply interesting the people is the chieftainey of the police department. It has been said by some that the chief and his men have not enforced the liquor law, that they could not do so because the mayor would not let them; on the other hand it has been stated that the mayor gave the chief orders what to do, but he had not carried these orders out. The majority of people have formed their own opinions about these statements and it is this which now makes them more curious regarding the office. The more curious the people are the quieter the mayor remains. There is a feeling among many that a change ought to be made, while on the other hand Chief Lawrence's supporters argue that he has not had the power to do what he would like to do and if reappointed now he would make a satisfactory chief. This is a delicate question and the proverbial wisdom of the owl would be none too much to deal with it. Perhaps ravens are not the wisest birds, but this is the way they look at this question. There are other laws besides the liquor laws which are not enforced. Whose fault is it? A law cannot be very effectively enforced unless public sentiment is with it. The chief, whoever he is, should be a man who is up and about. He should make it a part of his duty to know what is going on as well as his men. We have a good force, but rigid discipline should be kept up. Take certain city by-laws, they are not enforced. Whose fault is it? Perhaps it is nothing serious, but public sentiment would sustain the effort to enforce these at least. We ravens have always had a good feeling towards Chief Lawrence, and do not feel like giving the new mayor much advice regarding appointing or not appointing this or that man, but if Mr. Lawrence is to be the incumbent for another year we would advise him to be chief in deeds as well as name. That is, if he wishes to retain the respect of many who have always had much respect for him.

Another thing that is interesting many persons is the postmastership. A raven who mixes with the political factors in the city informs me that there is not much hope of Mr. Currier's re-appointment, and the only thing remaining now is to decide upon a successor. This will not be very good news to a great number of our best citizens who have so solidly stood by Mr. Currier. If it is true that Mr. Currier will not be re-appointed (and I know from the source of my brother raven's information that there is a strong desire to appoint a Republican and not to re-appoint a Democrat), I shall be sorry. Mr. Currier has made such a good postmaster that it looks hard to sacrifice him for political reasons. I have often perched in the lobby and watched things there, and I feel justified in saying that he has made the best postmaster we ever had. I feel confident in saying this because nearly every one says it, and that's a pretty good sign for a raven to follow. But if Mr. Currier *is* to go, why not put in Mr. Wallace, the assistant postmaster? Who is more deserving? We ravens have every respect for Gen. Kimball and Major Bond, but neither of them have the claim on the office that Mr. Wallace has. He has years of experience, excellent recommendations and is fully qualified to carry on the work as it should be carried on. Who more so? When we ravens find out for a dead certainty that Mr. Currier's chances are hopeless, we shall turn in and work for Mr. Wallace whether he wants us to do so or not.

So, So; the Board of Trade intends to try and do something. Good, Fitchburg is a conservative country town probably, but it has a little life left in it yet. In spite of its conservatism it has grown considerable during the past ten years, the result, to a large extent, of individual rather than collective enterprize. No doubt a portion of the growth has been of a somewhat undesirable nature, but that cannot be helped, it is the seemingly inevitable fate of all cities. The future growth depends solely upon the class of employment to be obtained here. If the employment calls for skilled labor, that labor will flock here to answer the demand; if only a low grade of employment is established—water will not rise higher than its source, unaided. Organized effort can accomplish what individual effort can not. Foreign or new industries looking for the most advantageous openings are most likely to seek the place where there are active and business-like men at the helm of affairs. A solid industry whose plant is of any practical value will be most apt to select a town having a reputation for enterprise, liberality, good government, moderate taxes, good social, moral and religious advantages rather than one devoid of them and on the retrograde. We ravens hope to see all take hold and help the good cause along. After the Board is in operation the market day will come as a matter of course.

Roes Paven.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

THE HIGH SCHOOL CONTEST.

The competitive essays for the prize of a Gold Watch to be awarded Feb. 7, 1891.

FITCHBURG IN THE FUTURE.

The past is ours only that we may be experienced from its hardships, wise from its lessons. The future is an enchantress with her magic lamp, and like the end of a shadow which the sun casts before, can never be overtaken. The present alone is within our grasp.

Some there are who live entirely in the past, thinking of what they might have been. Some live in the future, imagining what they will be. Others, and these alone find profit in living, dwell in the present with hope for the future and benefited by the past.

The first have a foundation, but the structure is wanting. The second class build their temple of air-bubbles and accomplish nothing. The last named, building their temple bit by bit, with experience for their teacher and hope for their guide, have an attained purpose, an accomplished end.

Still, for the unattainable, there is a certain longing; for the unseen, a natural curiosity. How many have wondered "who, a hundred years from now, would occupy their positions, dwell where they now live, carry out purposes they designed, settle questions that puzzled them?"

Politicians conjecture concerning the settlement of the labor questions. We, perhaps, have imagined the futurity of our own city. The only way we have to judge of what will be is by what has been; of progress in the future by progression in the past.

Let us suppose that an instrument, not to look into distant space, but into future time; not into land thousands of miles away, but into the futurity of our city; not to discover obstacles against which our feet will never stumble, but to seek out the best ways that we may shapen our course accordingly, has been discovered. With the aid of this let us see the change the future will bring.

The same sun which first shone upon a primeval forest, with groves of oak and chestnut, as yet untouched by the hand of man, which next lighted up with its far-reaching rays the lonely log cabin of the first white settler and which now shines with kindly light upon the present city, still beams its benevolent face upon the spires and roofs of that city in far perspective.

The same river, upon whose bosom the wily Indian stole in his birch canoe, by whose current in later times the settler transported the logs for his cabin, and which now furnishes power to many mills and factories, in that future city flows its unobstructed way between banks, laid out in park-like splendor. Our descendants may thank electricity for changing this river from artificial ugliness to primeval grandeur.

Rollstone, whose giant form overhangs us, ere that city shall have existed, had offered itself up, a sacrifice to the altar of industry. Nothing remains save a mighty granite monument, hewn from the unquarried rock and resting upon the same pedestal as when the mass was first formed. Many of the other hills enclosing the valley are scarcely to be recognized, with the houses and gardens of the people so changing their well-known form.

The lofty hills of Ashby and Ashburnham, the broad, fertile meadows of Lunenburg and Leominster are included within the precincts of the city, containing about one hundred thousand inhabitants.

Transportation facilities, both for the accommodation of the public and for freight, are many and greatly extended in comparison with one hundred years ago.

An elevated railroad has just been completed, and if it is a success will be extended. The electric cars run to Leominster and Lunenburg for the accommodation of the people living in those wards.

Some of the higher hills have been tunneled and then excavated from their summits to the tunnel.

Large elevators, working on the same plan as smaller ones, afford opportunity for teams and people to ascend to the summit without trouble or delay. This greatly lessens the expense of those living on the hills.

The change in the appearance of the buildings, laying of new streets, and in the general aspect of the whole city, is marked. On either side brick buildings, eight and ten stories high, and almost excluding the light of day, rear their gloomy faces.

A wayfare, in many respects replacing the old Main street, has been laid out running parellel and just south of the latter.

Many new buildings interspersed among the old can be seen. The Y. M. C. A. buildings, with the exception of the lot where the Methodist church stands, occupies the whole square between Main and Elm, Fox and Oliver streets. A new armory and post office also add their tithe to the general richness of the city. General Woods' hill has been crowned with a new hospital, and the sides of the hill laid out in fine parks.

Many other changes seem to have taken place, but the sun, slowly sinking in the west, enwraps the city in darkness, and will reveal the vision partly, perhaps, to us, but the entire fulfilment only to our descendants.

ONE OF THE BEST THINGS ON

THE FACE OF THE EARTH

IS THE

Rubber Lined Ulster.

No rain gets through it and no cold.

$10 to $13 at

THE PHOENIX CLOTHING HOUSE,

We have a full line of the genuine EDWIN HARRIS SUITS and also the genuine SAWYER SUITS. Full line of Overcoats and Furnishings.

U. E. CLEVELAND, Prop'r., 354 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG.

COAL!

LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7.00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5.50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS.

Office, 11 Day Street.

TELEPHONE 218-2.

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY BY

WRIGHT & OLDFIELD,

360 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE:

$2.00 per year; Single copies, 5 cents.

Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter.

JANUARY 3, 1891.

Boston and several other cities contemplate petitioning the legislature to pass an act authorizing towns and cities to prescribe terms and conditions under which corporations may use public streets for their corporate purposes. This right to telegraph, telephone, gas, water or street railway companies is a valuable one, and, while we recognize the fact that these particular companies are a public benefit, they are (with certain exceptions) organized in the interests of the shareholders who receive whatever profit accrue therefrom. We would not for an instant urge that any heavy taxes, burdens or restrictions be imposed that would deter enterprising men from organizing these valuable undertakings, but the collection of a fair charge for the priveleges granted. This would be no more than right. To go further than that instead of being a public gain would be a public loss.

* * *

Just what particular benefit mankind is going to get out of Succi's 45 days' fast is not very apparent, and according to the New York *Herald* he does not make much money out of it. Succi, therefore, has undertaken an arduous task for a little empty fame—the fame of beating Dr. Tanner probably—unless he makes a big pot out of exhibiting as a museum freak, which he is. Citizen George Francis Train was present when Succi got through fasting and went into raptures over the feat. They would make a model couple if exhibited together. If Succi will hit upon something that will benefit the world and follow it up with the same persistency that he does fasting, he will deserve two corners in the temple of fame.

We are pleased to find that the Board of Trade has aroused itself to action again, and promises to so reconstruct its organization that it will virtually embrace the interests of the whole city. We have so often referred to this subject and laid so much stress upon its importance that the readers of this paper may be weary of it, but, at the risk of tiring many, we will once more urge upon all who peruse this paper the advantages to be derived from this particular organization. The Merchants' Association has done much for the merchants, but the Board of Trade will be a power in a wider field. Instead of giving its undivided attention to the interests of the traders, its aim will be to do all that tends to benefit the city and community. To make the Board a success it is imperatively necessary that it should be a distinctly representative body, composed of real estate owners, manufacturers, capitalists, bankers, traders of all grades and professional men. Let all once more unite for the common good, throw whatever petty jealousy may exist to the winds and make an effort to put this Board before the city young and strong. Guard against the errors of the past and let the welfare of the future be the guiding star of the Board's existence. Throw in your influence however small, every one counts. By so doing the organization cannot help but prove a power of good if rightly managed.

A POOR PICTURE

Of all things is an unsatisfactory investment at any price, therefore it is important to go to an artist of experience.

J. C. MOULTON, 368 MAIN ST.

FITCHBURG,

Has had over 40 years experience in

Photography

And is doing fine work (so all say), from card to life size. He is doing as fine work in INK, CRAYON, and COLORS as done in Boston, as he employs the best artist in Boston for finishing.

SEASON 1890-91.

FIFTH ANNUAL
ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE
Y. M. C. A.
POPULAR COURSE
—OF—
ENTERTAINMENTS
AT CITY HALL.

The Association now presents with a great degree of satisfaction and confidence, the announcement of their Fifth Popular Course. The appreciation of this department of the Y. M. C. A. work by the public, and also by the membership, has been manifested during the past two seasons by the most liberal patronage and support. The committee in charge therefore feel like reciprocating in the matter, and have contracted for some of the very best talent in the field. A perusal of the list will be sufficient proof of the fact.

MONDAY, JAN. 26.

CONCERT

BY THE

LADIES' SCHUBERT QUARTET

OF BOSTON.

J. Williams Macy, Humorist and Basso,
Maude Nichols, 1st Soprano,
Jennie Whitcombe Worster, 2d Soprano,
Elizabeth Roberts, 1st Alto,
Anna Louise Whitcomb, 2d Alto.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19,

LECTURE

—BY—

EX-GOV. WILL CUMBACK,

OF INDIANA

Subject:—"The Common Man."

FRIDAY, March 13.—CONCERT by the Temple Male Quartet of Boston, assisted by Miss Bertha Silsby, Cornetist, and Miss Lucia Mead Priest, Reader.

COURSE TICKET, RESERVED SEAT, $1.50.
SINGLE TICKETS, - 25 CENTS.
RESERVED SEAT, - 35 CENTS.

Members of the Association can obtain tickets of admission to the course free on application to the General Secretary. Reserved Seats 50 cents extra. COURSE TICKETS are now on sale by members and by the General Secretary at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms; also by Mncurdn & Sawyer and J. E. Thompson.

☞The committee feel that after presenting such an array of talent, so well known for marked ability, that it is perfectly absurd to urge the public to "Pack the House," "Crowd the House," or "Make it Standing Room Only," for

"EVERYBODY IS GOING THIS YEAR."

I. C. Wright & Co.

HARDWARE.

135 Main Street.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER.

COUPON.

This Certifies that I am a member of the ..... Class of the Fitchburg High School, and that the article herewith is written by me, and is my own production, unaided.

Name, ...

Address, ...

Date Submitted, ...

PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES.

We imagine from what has been said that both sketches given last week were easily recognized. One of them, it appears, is not only a brick mason, but is also a Free Mason. No. 36 was meant for mine host, Frank W. Aldrich. No. 37 was intended for S. S. Lawrence.

No. 38 has probably seen as much of human nature as most men in this city and could relate to you some sad experiences which have come under his notice during the past 20 years. Not all sad, however, have his experiences been, some of the saddest have had comical sides, and but for the sorrowful surroundings would have been decidedly ridiculous. He has seen sorrow, genuine sorrow, in the homes of the rich and in the homes of the poor; he has seen the dearest ties on earth suddenly and rudely broken and hearts crushed by the heavy hand of affliction follow him slowly and sadly around while he prepared to bear away all that his customers cared for. Probably he could tell of cases where the grief of those around him was mere outward show, cases of man's inhumanity to man, and could relate other cases where the sorrow was so deep that tears gave no relief and a dazed glance alone told of the anguish of the soul. Through all these years his heart has remained tender and sympathetic though many others who follow the same calling have become steeled through repeated scenes of a similar nature. Once a widow lady in this city found herself standing on the threshold of another world. She felt ready to answer the summons, but her boy, her darling only boy, young tender and inexperienced, what was to become of him? No kind and loving father to care for and watch over him, no kind relative to receive him and a scanty pittance to leave behind for him. A heavy responsibility, but No. 38, without a thought or care about the return of the investment gave the assurance that changed the look of care and pain on her face to one of peace and satisfaction, closed the eyes in death, left the child alone with his dead mother and wild grief for a spell, then tenderly and affectionately led the orphan boy to his own home and made him as welcome as his own son. For years he cared for him and brought him up as his own son to man's estate, till now he is an amiable and much respected young man. This young man is not the only one he has befriended, more than one is indebted to him for a helping hand over the rough places in the path of life. But you would never know it from anything he says. He is quiet, unassuming and retiring, and though many times tried by the apparent indifference of those who ought be otherwise he makes no complaint. He is now fairly well provided with the posessions of this world, the result of many years hard, faithful and conscientious work, but, in his younger days he knew what it was to be poor. If you have been unfortunate enough to pay the last sad rites over a departed friend you will perhaps recognize No. 38.

No. 39 is quite a striking figure on the streets, and is one of those men that once seen is to be always remembered. There is one peculiarity about him and that is his long beard. He is well along in years, but may be seen every day wending his way along carrying either a stick or an umbrella or both. He was for many years a book-keeper for a firm in one of the neighboring towns, and lived in that town a long time, although he is a native of this city. Before entering his present important position he spent some time in the insurance business, and before that he run a store in Milford, N. H. He is a man of considerable importance to those who have any real estate transactions, and he is held in high respect by one of the largest, if not the largest, fraternal society in the city. His picture adorns the walls of the society's hall, and the original often adorns one of the seats of the hall. When our Board of Trade was above ground and setting itself about to bring radical changes into operation, a berth was created for an official which had not been quartered here before, and the subject of this sketch was the man selected to fill the position. He is quiet, jolly and of even temperament, but can enjoy a little humor whenever he is at liberty to indulge in it. In business he is always obliging and appears to give entire satisfaction to the large clientelage that calls upon him. Perhaps you have already made up your mind who No. 39 is. If not, some day about noon stand near Monument square and watch the people go by. Perhaps you will see some one who will answer the description.

SACHET POWDERS.

TRY OUR NEW ODORS,

Cherry Blossom and Arbutus.

EXQUISITE AND LASTING.

H. A. ESTABROOK & CO.,

APOTHECARIES,

CORNER MAIN AND PRICHARD STREETS

(Commenced in No. 8.)

THE FUGITIVES OF PEARL HILL.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

(In Ten Chapters. Copyright 1890. All rights reserved by the author.)

CHAPTER X,

Hiram's fiddle. Conclusion.

Hiram Bean did not remain long at the Green dwelling that morning. He stayed until Nat Hobson went away, and later, when Jotham expressed a determination to go out and learn, if possible, whether or not the fugitives were successful in their attempt to reach the northern side of the hill, Hiram consulted briefly with Hannah and then declared that he must go home. His brother's wife would wonder why he didn't come and protect their dwelling, he declared, and so he and Jotham went out together.

Before his departure Nat Hobson told Mr. Green why the Indians were so determined to kill or capture Mr. Page.

"Maybe it isn't all his fault," Hobson declared in his gruff way, "but as a gineral thing Injuns have a streak of human natur' in 'em same as the rest of us. They're unreasonable and ugly as time, but they don't get stirred up over nothin'."

"So you think Page gave them particular offence?" Jotham asked.

"I know it. I told the girl I wouldn't say anything, but what's the use? You took 'em in and harbored 'em, and it's clear that you hate to give up doin' for 'em, so you must act with your eyes open. The women ain't to blame except for standin' up for sich a scamp, but women are always doin' that—it's in their natur', and we can't alter it."

"We might all fare worse if they were any different from what they be," said Mr. Green.

"The man is a trader," Hobson resumed. "He don't care much who or what he trades with if he only gits the best of the bargain. If he ain't favored the Frenchmen now and then I'm mistaken, but that ain't all. He has traded with friendly Injuns and cheated 'em till he got 'em so mad that he daresn't go nigh 'em, and he's gone north to trade with the Injuns up there that don't turn out so friendly. A couple of months ago he played some sort of a sharp game ag'in' 'em that got 'em down on him, and two or three on 'em sot out to give him a poundin'. They wouldn't killed him, and they was half in fun, for I seen the whole row, and if he'd gone easy with 'em it wouldn't have turned out serious, but as it was he up with his gun and shot one of 'em plumb through the head. Of course he made off lively then, and they never tried to foller him, but it stirred 'em all up. A few on 'em started out to take revenge on him, and others took it for an excuse to abuse every white man they could find. Then after he got back here he had a confab with a couple of friendly Nipmucks, and because they called him by names that he really desarved he knocked one of 'em down with his fist. That's the whole matter. Injuns have got too much spirit to stand that sort of thing. There's some northern Injuns that're on the warpath prowlin' 'round, and they've done some mischief and may do more, and it's on that account that I fired the signal this mornin'. But them that's after Page in particular don't really mean to trouble the settlers in general."

"And that is why you didn't want him to stay here? You thought it would bring trouble upon us."

"That's just the case, and git a gineral Injun war a-going 'round here and every settler's cabin along the Nashua would be wiped out within a week."

After the scout, Jotham and Hiram were gone, it seemed strangely quiet at the Green dwelling. Mr. Green ventured to go out and do some work, taking care not to go out of sight of the house and to keep his gun constantly within reach. He became anxious as the day passed and Jotham did not return. He heard one or two shots in the direction of the hill, but as they were common sounds they were not necessarily signals of danger at this time.

Just before sunset Jotham, Nancy and little Nathan arrived. The story of their adventures was related to listeners who were thrilled by the realism of present events which it is beyond my power to impart to the details of an experience so remote from this day. Soon after their arrival they heard firing in the direction of Pearl Hill. Several guns were discharged in rapid succession, and it was evident that an encounter of considerable importance was taking place.

The sounds soon ceased, and then followed a period of great anxiety to Nancy and Nathan, which was shared in an almost equal degree by the members of the Green household. But this suspense was not of long duration, for in a short time Jotham reported the approach of Nat Hobson and Mr. Page, while close behind them came a dozen mounted white men, whose weapons glistened in the golden light of the sun which was just sinking from sight. And upon the horse of one of these strang-

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ers was a woman, who, as they rode up to the settler's dwelling, they recognized as Mrs. Page.

The horsemen were from Lancaster, and they had come in response to the three musket-shots fired by Nat Hobson in the morning. Among them were several whose names have come down in the annals of that historic town, all brave and hardy pioneers who hesitated not in the face of the greatest of dangers if it were to aid those less able to defend their houses, their faces wearing that look of dignity and invincible purpose which the hardships of those days lent them.

Mr. Page was weak from the struggle he had undergone. The looks cast upon him, first with reproach, were transformed into those of pity.

"I've brought trouble enough on ye all!" he huskily exclaimed as they all gathered around him. "I've had a desperate, ugly temper and I haven't keered what happened to other folks if I only pulled through safe with my own family. I didn't care for friends, so I always said. I could take care of myself and other folks might do the same. But it ain't so now. I couldn't run another mile to save my life. My ugly temper has burnt itself all up, and I couldn't hold out with my wife and the children in sich danger on account of me."

He reclined upon a bed, a feverish flush upon his cheeks, resulting as much from his mental struggle as from the physical fatigue he had undergone.

The story of the rescue of Mrs. Page was briefly told. The men from Lancaster had encountered Nat Hobson and Page as they were on their way to the Green dwelling, and on being informed of the proximity of the party of Indians with their prisoner, they rode immediately to the rescue. The Indians were taken by surprise, and only a few shots were fired. They fled precipitately, leaving their prisoner behind. In their terror the numbers of the white foe were greatly exaggerated, and their only thought was to escape the fatal marksmanship of the brave settlers with whose fighting qualities they were already sufficiently well acquainted.

Word was sent to the other settlers in the vicinity, and they jointly prepared a small feast for those who had come in response to the signal for aid, and the next morning, upon the assurance from Nat Hobson that they would have no further trouble with the Indians for the present, they rode homeward, followed by the hearty good wishes of the settlers of Pearl Hill.

* * * * *

On an eastern slope in what has since become a part of the town of Ashburnham Mr. Page erected a new dwelling. It was of the rudest description when first completed, for he had no money to hire, and neighbors to lend him assistance were all distant, but he had chosen a fertile and picturesque spot, and went to work with an energy which he had never displayed before, and in time the rude log house assumed a more homelike aspect, and the fields around it had a thrifty look. The change was wrought by hard work. Mr. Page was a man of great physical powers, and these were now expended upon the new home with the determination to make up for lost time.

During the same period the Greens were as prosperous as settlers usually were; that is, they took up the rugged labor for existence and accomplished it. So far as Jotham was concerned, a rather phenomenal ambition seemed to possess him, and he performed prodigious days' works, felling trees and clearing the land of stumps and rocks, and one day he asked Hiram Bean to help him hew some timbers.

This was the beginning. In a short time the frame of a new house, somewhat more pretentious than that of Mr. Green, was reared. The house grew slowly, and at last assumed habitable proportions, and still Jotham did not say why he was building it.

Not that nobody suspected. Hiram talked the matter over with Aunt Hannah.

"What's Jotham keep goin' off most every Sunday for, hey?" Hiram asked her one evening in October.

"I dunno, 'less it's the meetin's they're havin' down in the valley," said Aunt Hannah.

"Goin' to git a preacher, be they?"

"I guess likely. You oughter take an interest in sich things more'n you do, Hiram."

"I know it, and—I tell ye what, Hannah, if they do git a preacher so nigh us—I declare for't—why couldn't we—jest as well as not—hitch up, I mean? Hey? Come, now, I mean it, and then I'll go to meet'n' with ye. Won't that be cosy, now! And we'll have a house of our own and not be holden to nobody. Say, Hannah?"

"But maybe they won't have no preacher after all," was her faint objection, but Hiram laughed right out and slapped his knees and—to tell the whole truth—he kissed Aunt Hannah on the cheek in the bargain.

Almost in the midst of this scene, which chanced to have no witnesses, the door opened rather suddenly and Jotham came in with Nancy Page. Her cheeks were aglow, and so were his. They were a little out of breath, for they had been running.

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
LAMP.

JENNISON, THE PLUMBER.

SOLE AGENT

MAGEE MYSTIC.

T. J. SULLIVAN, Mangr. Sheet Iron Dept.
CHAS. SMITH, Mangr. Plumbing Dept

"Father brought us part of the way in his wagon, and then we walked," said Nancy.

"Until the wolves began to howl uncomfortably nigh, and then we run," added Jotham. Mr. and Mrs. Green came into the room just then, and Nancy was hugged and kissed very much as if she were a member of the family who had been absent.

"Is it decided when it's goin' to be, Jotham?" Mrs. Green asked softly, looking from his face to Nancy's.

"It's decided, mother," was his answer.

"And when?"

"New Year's eve."

"Hey? What's that?" demanded Hiram.

"Nancy and I are going to be married New Year's eve," declared Jotham, so boldly that Nancy blushed to the very tips of her ears.

"That's jest what I've been tellin' of ye, Hannah!" Hiram exclaimed.

"We supposed you had guessed it, Hiram. And how about you and Aunt Hannah? I thought like enough you would get ahead of us, you have been courting of her so long. See here, Hiram, I think you had better have your ceremony over with first, for it will be working the new parson too hard to give him two such jobs to begin with; and besides, I want you to come to our wedding and fetch your fiddle. Most everybody in the valley will be there, I expect, and some of 'em might want to dance. What do you say?"

"Got my fiddle right here now—makes me think—and mabbe I'd better play a tune to celebrate," said Hiram, evasively. And he proceeded to open a coffin-shaped box which he had tucked slyly under the table, and struck wildly into the dizzy air known as "The Devil's Dream."

"Hiram, Hiram!" cried Mr. Green, deprecatingly, "you forgit what day 'tis. It's the Sabbath."

"So 'tis, I snum!" Hiram put the instrument back in the box and resolutely closed the lid.

"To tell the truth," he added, "I don't feel much like Sunday, and as for my fiddle, it will bust right into sich tunes as that in spite of anything I can do. I s'pose it's a sinful streak in't. Have to git the new parson round to labor with it—eh, Hannah?"

"Be still, Hiram," admonished Aunt Hannah.

They were married "before snow flew," as Hiram expressed it, and they took up their abode temporarily with the Bean family, but the spirit of the bride and that of Hiram's brother's wife were of a sort calculated to perpetually clash, so Hiram set about erecting a dwelling of his own.

The other wedding, which took place at the Page home, was a rather elaborate affair for those days, and considering the circumstances of the participants. The weather was clear and fine, and several sled-loads of guests arrived. The occasion was a sort of informal gathering of the settlers for several miles around.

I would like to describe the simple costume of Nancy, for if the portrait of her which has been handed down does not flatter she must have been very beautiful, and her apparel becoming if not elaborate. And Jotham, his likeness shows me now a sturdy, youthful face, with that expression of earnest dignity which, as it seems to me, all those old pictured faces wore.

I would gladly linger also over the festive scene of that New Year's eve. The Bean family were there, including Hiram and Hannah. Nat Hobson dropped in rather late, stood in a corner for an hour with a set grin on his face, and then as suddenly dropped out again. The restraints of civilization were too much for his eccentric nature.

After the ceremony, and the kissing of the bride, and a feeling prayer by the good parson, the interval of solemnity was relieved by the strains of Hiram's fiddle which he was "tuning up," and in the course of the evening a bowl of punch went around, with no thought of wickedness in it, though I suppose it was all there just the same.

These things are now only annals of the past, but we will think of them as present, with Nancy fresh and blooming, loving and coy, as she was then; and of Jotham, young and awkward, but with all the strength and courage of a hopeful future within him; and of Nathan and Daniel as boys, adepts in the use of guns and axes; and of the elders, as alive to the struggle which conquered the wilderness, curbed the impetuous current of the Nashua and covered the picturesque slopes of Pearl Hill with the productive farms and beautiful homes by which it is known today.

The end.

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COME ALL!

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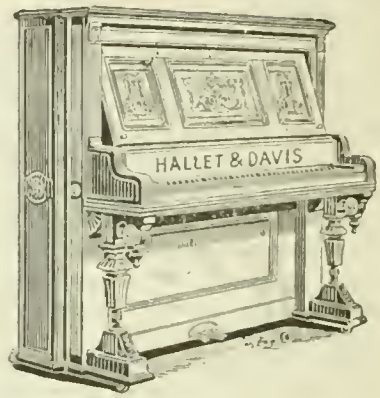

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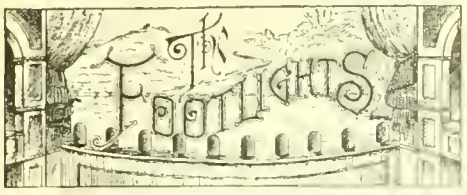


Lilly Clay and her bevy of beauties and Sam T. Jack's famous Creoles are booked for Friday, March 27. N. B. The sale of seats has not yet opened.

Manager Dunn is endeavoring to secure Pauline Hall's opera company for a date in the spring.

Zeffie Tilbury and company close a week's engagement at Lowell tonight. The company is drawing good houses everywhere.

Nearly every actor in New York visited Succi during his long fast, presumably for the purpose of studying his appearance and make-up for professional purposes.

Old Jed Prouty comes on Tuesday next. This is a play which it is a pleasure to "puff." Richard Golden as "Old Jed Prouty" is a typical down-east tavern keeper, warm hearted, generous, overflowing with crude wit and common sense. Miss Dora Wiley, the "sweet singer of Maine," proves her right to her title by her singing. Little Millie Smith as "Little Tretty" sings several songs very prettily, and in the last act does some very clever dancing which is received with especial favor. The minor parts are all filled in the same excellent manner which characterizes the leading parts. In a word it is a clean, superior play, containing nothing of which the most scrupulous can complain.

The *Dramatic News* says it is in a position to state officially that Mary Anderson's retirement from the stage is permanent. She has lately written to a friend stating positively that she would never again appear in public. Mr. Henry E. Abbey's present visit to England was undertaken mainly with a view to inducing the lady to make one more tour of America. She declined to receive him or to consider any proposition looking to her return to the stage. She is much improved in health since her retirement from public life and expresses herself as grateful for relief from the cares and labors of the stage.

Manager Litt is making a great hit with his new dialect comedy "Yon Yonson." It is a story of the Minnesota lumber regions and has some of the finest scenery ever used on the stage. Manager Litt has imported a Swede from the Minnesota lumber regions and his first appearance on Broadway, New York, recently greatly excited local curiosity, by the Swede appearing dressed in a remarkably gay checked suit, something of a cross between a horse blanket and a coat lining. The Swede's name is Olaf Jung. He is likely to create a sensation on the road. The picturesque lumber scene used in the play was painted by Maeder and Shaefer. It is said to be one of the handsomest winter sets ever used in a stage production. The company carries 21 people and two car-loads of scenery.

Julia Marlowe is to take Modjeska's place next year with Edwin Booth.

Hugh Fay, of Barry and Fay, is the first actor to be inoculated with Dr. Koch's newly discovered lymph.

The time for seeing the "Soudan" is fast drawing to a close. "The Crystal Slipper" is booked for Jan. 12. It is another gorgeous play and will probably be almost as big an attraction as the "Soudan."

"A Trip to Chinatown" goes to the Boston theatre early in February.

Margaret Mather has joined the professional majority. She has sued for a divorce from her husband, Emil Haberkom.

Charles L. Davis, who has played "Alvin Joslin" for the past dozen years without one season's break, is playing it at Brooklyn this week for the last time. Mr. Davis' success with the play has been almost phenomenal.

Ullie Akerstrom has been drawing large houses at Worcester recently. She appeared in the same play (and others) that she presented when here a few weeks ago. Her audience here was of only fair size.

The *Dramatic News* recently stated that Estelle Clayton received $500 a week from Mr. Hill for playing Iza, and now says: "There was an absurd paragraph printed in this paper a couple of weeks ago to the effect that Estelle Clayton received from Mr. Hill, for playing Iza in the Clemenceau Case, $500 a week and ten per cent. of the gross receipts. How on earth such a statement could get into an intelligently conducted paper is one of the mysteries, but it did, and we beg to acknowledge the corn."

"The Kindergarden," a so-called satire on the schools of that name, will be given by Howell & Gebert's company on Saturday, Jan. 24. It has been here before, and therfore needs no extended comment. Stanley Macy is put down as the star of the entertainment, while Mamie Gilroy, presumably one of the well-known Gilroy family, plays Ivy Magee. Several attractive girls brighten the interest.

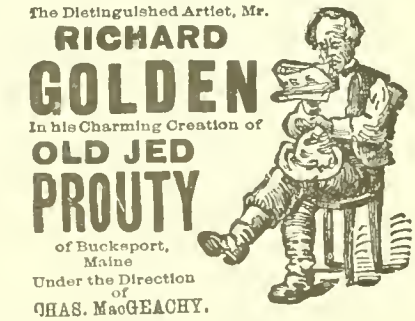
As predicted and confidently expected the Clemenceau Case had a large house Tuesday evening, one of the largest of the season. Not a rowdy crowd, but a representative gathering of the city's population. Doubtless many went attracted by the unsavory reputation the play has made by the actions of one or two women who saw a chance to gain a little shady notoriety by exposing a little more of their persons than the law allows. To this must be added the enterprise?, of a few newspapers whose principal stock in trade is sensation. The unpleasant odium will now a long time remain attached to it. Devoid of this and regarded solely from an artistic point of view the Clemenceau Case in the hands of Barrymore, Smiley, Mattie Earl, Blanche Curtisse and the remaining capital company is a powerful play. It has the flavor of all similiar French productions, but under such management as J. M. Hills and in the hands of such artists the audience forgets the tainted surroundings in the excellent and thrilling work of the performers. There is nothing in Mr. Hill's production that calls for the slightest condemnation that we can see.

The sudden death of Johnny Prindle, comedian, the original of the eccentric character "Reuben Glue," is announced from his home in Glover, Vt. He died on the 18th ult. from heart failure. He was a G. A. R. man and Mason.

OPERA HOUSE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 6.

OLD JED PROUTY.



FRIDAY, JAN. 9.

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L. A. Cousins, 177 Main St.

Before election those who opposed Mr. Graves' election as mayor accused his friends of packing him off to the woods for fear that he would say something that would hurt his chances of election. It was proved without any doubt that the charge was false, even insulting, and the handsome plurality he received shows that the voters put little stock in the statement. Since election Mr. Graves has maintained a Sphynx-like silence that has baffled all the reporters, his friends and enemies alike. He has been approached several times; two or three times I have ventured into his office myself, but beyond being able to inveigle him into loaning me his picture, up to Thursday my journeys were almost fruitless. He has succeeded in keeping the politicians and kindred afflictions at bay, and it is safe to say that today less is known about his plans than any mayor we have had for a long time. On Thursday I tried again, but found him laughingly willing to talk about everything in general and nothing in particular.

As soon as I entered his office he divined my intentions and greeted me almost with the same cordiality that he would a long-lost brother. There were two or three other persons present, but he pulled out a chair for me and told me to make myself happy. This argues bad for an interview, I thought, and I was right.

"What's the news?" he inquired. "That's just what I am after," I replied.

"May I inquire, Mr. Graves, who is to be the next chief of police?" "Why, certainly," he answered with great frankness, "ask anything you like. It is Paul Pry's business to ask questions, is it not? By the way, your godfather and godmother could not have picked a better name for you, could they?" He laughed heartily over the joke, and to keep up appearances I did the same, fully resolving, however, that I would worm his secrets out of him or bust. I had to bust at last, however.

"Well, then, I would be much gratified to know who is to be the man," I answered, and to make him impressed with the importance of the question, I tried to look as serious as Judge Hayden when he tries a liquor case. "You can say," he answered, "that at present I have not decided the matter, and it will not be decided for some few days yet." I heaved a sigh; my chances of getting a scoop for TOWN TALK over the daily papers were not very good. Seeing me meditating, he continued: "I think the question is one of considerable importance and I have not decided what I shall do. I think it is the chief's place to organize the force; he should know what his men can do, for where they are best suited and whether there are too many or not enough men. These are things which the chief should know better than the mayor. Further than this I cannot at present say."

"I presume your inaugural address is nearly completed?" "You can say in regard to it that my inaugural address will be somewhat different from the general style. It will be shorter certainly than some of those of previous years, but perhaps not so brilliant as my illustrious predecessors," he laughed.

"Can you tell me upon what points it will touch?" I desperately ventured. "Oh, yes. I shall touch upon the liquor question, but shall treat it in a different way from what it has been treated in former years. You can say that much without fear of contradiction."

"And the highway department. I suppose you will have something to say on that too?" "Yes, and that the same as the liquor question, I shall treat rather differently from the usual custom."

"Are there any other matters of importance that you can speak of at present?" "No, I don't think there are; in fact, I think you have covered all the ground there is to be covered. You have helped me amazingly in this little chat and I hope you will call and see me again. Next time I go on a shooting trip I shall try to get you to be one of the party. You would be astonished to know what fine game there is in the Maine woods in the fall. If you are anything of a shot you would not fail to hit something."

I gave up the struggle. As a subject for an interview the new mayor is a failure, but I am satisfied he will be able to hold his own when in office. He saw I was beaten and he laughed heartily when I got up to leave. I came away with the conviction that Mayor Graves is too much for

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That means that a Cloak that

Formerly sold for	$8.00	will now cost you	$4.00
"	"	"	10.00	"	"	"	5.00
"	"	"	12.00	"	"	"	6.00
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"	"	"	16.00	"	"	"	8.00
"	"	"	18.00	"	"	"	9.00
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As we are confident that these prices will quickly sell the entire stock, we advise an early call, to insure a good assortment to select from.

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ORANGES.
150 BOXES,
EXTRA LARGE SWEET FLORIDA ORANGES.
35 CENTS A DOZEN.
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FIRE INSURANCE.
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Leominster Breezes.

THEY SAY

That schools commence Monday.

That Frank Farnsworth is the youngest grand juryman every drawn in this town.

That some of the boys who went up to see "The Clemenceau Case," were some what disappointed.

S. A. Stevens of Norfolk Va., is stopping in town the past week. He is looking up some business enterprise.

That a certain hackman in this town don't seem to like to hear any thing about the little ride he gave the boys.

That the *Enterprise* office is under going some extensive alterations which when finished will be a great improvement.

That the hook and ladder boys had a most successful and pleasant time at their ball and every one had a first class time.

That there is lots of speculation with reguard to whether Ex-Chief Rhoads will go to Fitchburg or not. Speculation on this subject however will cease in another week.

That there are several owners of pretty good horses that will find themselves paying one of our justices a nice little sum of money for driving without bells in their sleighs unless it is stopped at once.

That we have got about as healthy a town as one needs to live in. As the population increases the death rate decreases. Our rate for 1890 is not so large as for 1889 still we are nearly a thousand larger.

That some one held a dance or kissing party in G. A. R. hall last Wednesday and for all the noises that ever issued from that hall the ones of that evening discounted anything ever heard. Send us an undertaker next time as no one enjoys fun any better than we do.

Supt. Hall has been enjoying a trip South the past week.

Bowling seems to be gaining in popularity and a number of clubs will be found here in the different shops and they will all enter into a contest for the championship of the town. A lot of fun is looked for in this line of sport.

We don't hear any more about that Board of Trade. Has it gone to sleep with those who first began to talk it up? Other towns are talking it up and not only talking but have organized in a number of places and are making efforts to secure industries. Some one should put their shoulders to the wheel and help the thing along. So to the Citizens Club next Monday and hear matter discussed.

We now have about all the *orders* which have ever been instituted in the state, but suppose if there was several hundred more they would all be represented here. Some people have a longing to belong to every thing. The latest is the National Congress of Friends which was organized Wednesday night.

As promised in last week's number, we give below a list of the subjects of the pen pictures, from 1 to 20 inclusive. As the contest did not close until last night, it was impossible to give the result, but, as promised, the next issue will contain the names of the prize winners: No. 1, Warren Lewis; 2, George A. Richardson; 3, Joel G. Tyler; 4, Clesson Kenney; 5, Joseph Colburn; 6, Chas. A. Joslin; 7, Chas. E. Dresser; 8, Joseph Collins; 9, Silas P. Osborn; 10, Isaac Cowdrey; 11, W. D. Blanchard; 12, Dr. H. P. Hall; 13, Edward Bartlett; 14, Cephas Derby; 15, Cornelius Sullivan; 16, Dr. Charles A. Wheeler; 17, Rev. Daniel Sheil; 18, Dennis Wheelock; 19, John Cotton; 20, Charles Porter. The pen pictures will be omitted this week, but may be continued in next week's issue.

The Holiday season is over. We have had an excellent business and feel satisfied that our efforts to offer attractions in our line have been appreciated. We can now give more attention to our Grocery Department, in which will be found a complete assortment of the best goods at low prices.

Give us a call at

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RUBBER STAMP?
IF NOT, WHY NOT?

Do you know how much valuable time you can save by the use of a Rubber Stamp?
We can furnish anything in the stamp line that is made and meet any prices of first-class manufacturers.
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The attractions are of a high musical order.

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Miss BERTHA BOARDMAN, Cornet.
Miss MAY PRATT, Flute.
Miss LILLA VILES, Piano.

Brief Address by the

Hon. THEODORE PARKER DRESSER, Secretary General.

Tickets are all complimentary, and the recipients will be among the "elect" on this happy occasion.

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146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

Secret Societies.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

ODD FELLOWS.

By the death of Samuel Batchelder of Chelsea, Winnisimmet lodge has lost its last charter member. He was initiated October 26, 1843.

Citizens of Green Bay, Wisconsin, have donated a sight for the Odd Fellows' home to be erected in that city.

The Odd Fellows' home at Unionport, N. Y., recently received from a member property from which $53,000 was realized. It has an invested fund of $70,000, with no debts, while its property is valued at $30,000. It has now 34 inmates.

It is said that one out of every four voters in New Hampshire is an Odd Fellow.

A temple to cost one million dollars is to be erected at Chicago, which will be something magnificent when finished.

The fraternity in St Louis has a library of over seven thousand volumes, daily and weekly papers from all quarters, and a superbly furnished reading room.

ORDER OF ÆGIS.

The supreme office received 153 applications last week. The financial statement to Dec. 10 is officially given as follows; Total amount paid in sick and death benefits, $79,862.05; amount in reserve fund, $55,778.40; amount in relief fund, $3,549.48; amount in general fund, $12,674.87; total, $72,002.75; number of certificates issued, 8,639. The branch in New Bedford has the largest membership, 350, and constantly growing.

FRIENDLY AID SOCIETY.

This order has just paid its first maturing endowment certificates, 550 in number. The payments were made in the Park Theatre at Waltham, Mass., last week, and was an occasion of much interest, especially to the beneficiaries. This single lodge closes its first term with a membership of 1,360, and holding endowment certificates numbering 1800.

Eight new lodges were instituted last week, and over 1000 certificates have been issued since December last. The membership of the order at large is rising 7,060.

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The Masonic temple at Nashua, N. H., will be dedicated Jan. 21st.

The Order of the World held a convention at Red Men's hall Tuesday.

The Royal Arcanum will have a public installation on Monday week.

The Clinton Commandery of the Bay State League numbers 375—the second largest.

The Fraternal Circle, organized in July, now has 300 certificate holders in Newburyport.

Monday's sleep Nashua Tribe will raise up Chiefs, adopt pale faces and have a feast of corn and venison.

The Order of Ægis will install officers and have an entertainment and collation at the next meeting.

There are now over three thousand members and fifty-two assemblies of the Non-Secret Endowment Order.

The maturing certificates of the Iron Hall members in Manchester were paid last week. Chief Justice Somerby was present.

Ancient Order of United Workmen is said to be the largest beneficiary organization in Massachusetts, and the second in size in New England.

The Sisterhood Branch of the Iron Hall paid Mrs. Hale's claim of $60 this week. The male Branch took in two candidates last meeting, one by card.

The installation of officers of Watatic lodge, N. E. O. P., has been postponed to Friday, Jan. 16, when D. D. G. W. Dr. A. M. Warner of Waltham will install.

Overlook Council, American Legion of Honor, indulged in a "home-made" musical and literary entertainment Thursday evening. The members present pronounced it one of the most enjoyable meetings the Council has held for a long time. One applicant was proposed for membership.

The corner stone of the Henry W. Grady hospital at Atlanta was laid Tuesday of last week with fitting ceremonies. The Grand Lodge of Masons conducted the exercises and Hon. Pat Calhoun delivered the formal address.

A gentleman who was recently asked to join an Order deferred doing so because, he said, he wanted to keep all his money in his business until he had brought it to a little more profitable stage. He could not be made to comprehend the position in which his family would be placed in case he should be called away before his business enterprises had reached just the stage which he desires.

OFFICERS ELECT.

The following are the officers elect of Mt. Roulstone Lodge No. 98, I. O. O. F.: N. G., George Buckley; V. G., Frank E. Brown; R. S., A. H. Hardy; P. S., F. D. Tuttle; treasurer, George H. Sprague; trustees, R. B. Mathews, H. J. Lewis, H. H. Lamb.

Of Wachusett Council, O. U. A. M.: C, D. F. Tarbell; V. C., F. A. Marble; R. S., E. F. Rugg; A. R. S., F. B. Crooker; F. S., C. H. Lancaster; T., T. S. Maloon; Ind., L. W. Joslin; Ex., H. A. Coburn; I. P., C. A. Jefts; O. P., F. H. Estabrook; trustee for 18 months, F. M. Peabody.

Of Nashua Tribe No. 37, I. O. R. M.: Prophet, W. E. Walker; sachem, John W. Ogden; senior sagamore, S. E. Birgham; Junior sagamore, F. E. Maynard; chief of records, F. S. Moore; asst. chief of records, W. F. Lawrence; keeper of wampum, Geo. W. Wright; trustee for three years, Peter Russell.

Of the New England Order of Protection; Warden, Mrs. M. A. Jordan; vice-warden, George W. Taylor; secretary, Mrs. M. E. Bowman; financial secretary, Fred H. Gowing; treasurer, Mrs. M. E. Haven; chaplain, Mrs. A. A. Lancaster; guide, Edgar F. Fletcher; guardian, Edward H. Fletcher; sentinel, Naomi Goodspeed.

Of Rollstone Lodge No. 107, A. O. U. W.: P. M. W., Charles H. Rice; M. W., S. W. Sawyer; F., E. L. Fiske; O., George Whittemore; R., Thomas Kelty; financier, B. S. Fellows; receiver, James B. Austin; G., F. A. Kibling; I. W., Geo. H. Barrett; O. W. John Webber; trustee for three years, S. McClure; representative to the Grand Lodge, Charles H. Rice; alternate, S. W. Sawyer. The officers will be publicly installed on Friday evening, Jan. 9, by District Deputy O. A. Taft of Leominster, and E. P. Gardner of Norwich, Conn., will speak upon the principles and objects of the Order.

Plymouth Colony No. 97, U. O. P. F.: Governor, H. E. Cowdrey; lieutenant-governor, H. B. Babbitt; secretary, W. G. Hayes; collector, W. A. Macurda; treasurer, A. C. Brown; chaplain, Mrs. J. K. P. Friend; S. of A., M. G. Twitchell; Dep. S. of A., Mrs. J. O. Richmond; S. of O. G., W. A. Davis; S. of I. G., Mrs. H. E. Cowdrey; trustees, W. A. Davis, F. D. Tuttle, J. K. P. Friend; representative to Supreme Colony, J. K. P. Friend. Installation, entertainment and banquet Jan. 8. Deputy Supreme Governor F. D. Tuttle and staff will install the officers.

The Golden Grail at Clinton paid its 79 charter members last Friday. The cost has been about $51 and they received $100. Not so very bad interest for six months.

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Smoking Jackets, Elegant Neckwear, Silk Mufflers, Handkerchiefs, silk and linen, Satin Suspenders, Dress Shirts, plain and embroidered, Night Shirts, Cardigans, Jerseys, GENUINE Macintoshes, and everything necessary for a man who dresses well.
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"Aren't you afraid of losing your nurse, little girl?"
"Oh, no! I've left her with the policeman."

MARVELS OF SCIENCE.

BENEVOLENT PHILOSOPHER (to poor and needy tramp, invited into his study): I will give you food and clothes, all you want; but I will not give you money, because I know you will spend it for drink. Drink, my friend, is simply poison, nothing else. You ask why it makes you feel so good. I will tell you. The first efforts of nature to throw off a poison are always pleasant, always accompanied by a feeling of exhilaration. In the process of what we call "catching cold," the pores of the skin close, a vast mass is forced back into the system and with a similar effect. The person feels in bounding health and spirits, and in the experience of many, it is a not uncommon thing to hear persons exclaim: "What? So-and-so dead, of pneumonia? Why only a week or two ago I heard him say he never felt so well in his life." You see, the man was at that moment catching his fatal cold, and the poison in his system was producing a feeling of exhilaration, just the same as if he had been drinking liquor.

TRAMP: Well! well! Science is a great thing arter all. Excuse me a minute, boss. I'm goin' out ter catch cold.

VERY LIKELY.

DRUGGIST: Few people have any idea of the great cost of some drugs. See that bottle there? Most empty now. It cost $20.00 to fill that.

OLD FRIEND: You don't say so? My! my! But then I suppose in selling it by the dose it brings you in about a million.

JUDGE: If I got as intoxicated as you do, I'd shoot myself.

PRISONER: If you was's 'tossicated as I am, you couldn't hitter barn door.

AN OPINION.

"PATTI'S hair is auburn now."
"Humph! Sing-Sing would be more appropriate."

VICTIM (*reprovingly*): *Look out; you have your finger in my mouth.*

PROFESSOR SCHMEARTZ: *Oh, I don't mind that. I have mein finger in more as a hundredt mouths to-day, alretty.*

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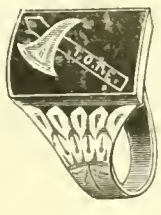

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EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

Sunday Services.

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a. m., German service with sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor, text, "The old and the new," followed by the reception of new members and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper; 12 m., Bible School; 4, Swedish services; 6, young people's meeting; 7, vesper praise service with short sermon by the pastor. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "The Revolution;" Sunday School at 12 m.; Y. P. S. C. E. meeting at 5.45 p. m.; missionary service concert at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Sermon and holy communion at 10.30, a. m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer (choral service) at 7 p. m.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner, pastor, residence 24 Hartwell street Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, followed by communion; Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's Epworth League meets at 6; general praise and prayer service at 7. All are cordially invited.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "The parting of the way;" Sunday School at 12 m.; young people's service at 6 p. m.; vesper service at 7 p. m

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10:30 a. m. New Year's sermon by the pastor, followed by reception of new members and the Lord's supper. Sunday school 12 m. People's service 7. p. m., sermon by the pastor, topic, "Man's Interior Life". A brief after-sermon will be held. An enlarged chorus will assist in the service of song at the evening service.

"World Wide" Salvation Army, barracks at 190½ Main street, rear entrance on Crescent street. Services at 11 a. m., 3 and 8 p. m., Capt. Caldwell, leader. All cordially invited.

Railroad Men's meeting at Red Men's hall, 239½ Main street, at 5 p. m.

Y. M. C. A. Bible training class in Association rooms, from 9.15 to 10.15 a. m. Meeting for men at 4 p. m.

East Street Mission Sunday School will meet at 3 p. m. All are welcome.

The Finn Temperance Union will hold a gospel temperance meeting at W. C. T. U. rooms, Wixon's block, at 4. p. m.

MARRIED.

WHITTEMORE—MAHONEY. Dec. 25, by Rev. Jesse Wagner, Oliver F. Whittemore and Minnie J. Mahoney, both of Worcester.

SEELEY—SWIFT. Jan. 1, by Rev. Frank Rector, Charles D. Seeley and Sadie A. Swift.

FARNSWORTH—HAYDEN Jan. 1, by Rev. Jesse Wagner, Wallace W. Farnsworth and Minnie B. Hayden.

DIED.

BARNUM—Dec. 26, Mary A., daughter of Joseph and Eleanor Barnum, 1 year, 4 months, 14 days.

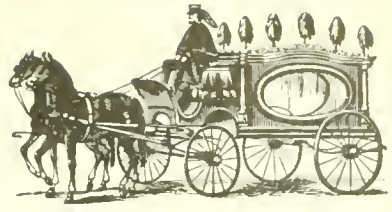
GOULDING—Dec. 26, Annie, daughter of Michael and Bridget Goulding, 10 years, 3 months.

GORMAN—Dec. 27, James Gorman, 80 years.

GORNER—Dec. 30, Elia, daughter of Richard and Minna Gorner, 1 month, 13 days.

HURLEY—Dec. 28, Mary Margaret, wife of Chas. H. Hurley, 26 years, 4 months, 13 days.

WILDER—Dec. 26, Walter E. Wilder, 59 years, 4 months, 26 days.



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50 CTS. A BASKETFUL,

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COMING EVENTS.

MONDAY.

Installation of officers, Post 19, G. A. R.

Concert at city hall under the auspices of the American Protective League.

Inauguration of city government at 10 a. m.

TUESDAY.

"Old Jed Prouty" at the opera house.

First meeting of new city government.

Patrons of Husbandry annual meeting and supper at G. A. R. hall.

WEDNESDAY.

St. Bernard T. A. concert and coffee party at city hall.

Meeting of Merchants' Association.

THURSDAY.

Mrs. Howard's dancing school at G. A. R. hall.

FRIDAY.

Railroad conductors' ball at city hall.

"Mankind" at the opera house.

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* * * * * * *

Well we have been treading it down for several years. Now we have it paved with nice cobbles, and with the help from other business on the street, we think there will be no need of using a lawn mower another season. Come and see us. We sell a regular 60c. Tea for 45c. lb., and have the largest order trade in the city.

With the compliments of the season, we remain,

Yours truly,

J. A. JOSLIN.

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Very Large Ash Pan,
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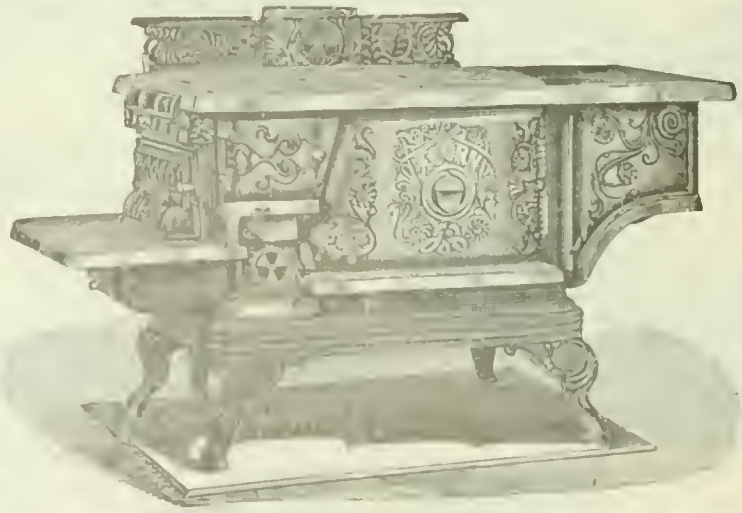
AND IN SHORT, THE BEST RANGE EVER MADE.



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Nickel Oven Shelf,
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We shall close out all our Christmas Goods at reduced prices, for cash or credit. Furniture, Carpets, Stoves, Ranges, Sideboards, Book Cases, Desks, Lamps, Crockery, Wardrobes, Chiffoniers, and everything to furnish a home.

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Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 44

FITCHBURG, MASS., JANUARY 24, 1891.

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Well, the fact is just this, we have looked over our stock and find many articles which we cannot duplicate. A lot of short pieces of Carpeting, enough for one or two carpets, and to close them out will sell for much less than they will cost two months from now.

We do not confine this to cash trade, but will give our special system of credit as usual.

Come and see what a little money will do at

222 MAIN ST.
OPERA HOUSE BLOCK,
FITCHBURG, MASS.

UNCLE CYRUS THURSTON.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

Probably every man, woman and child who has lived in this city at any time during the past 60 years has heard of Cyrus Thurston. Certainly those who have lived in Fitchburg for a number of years remember the familiar form of the old man, slightly bent with the weight of years, who was frequently seen pacing his way down street, or the white-haired old man who, shortly before his death, was constantly seen around city hall. That was Uncle Cy Thurston, as he was familiarly known. To those who in former times were intimately connected with him and his singing school, the above picture will awaken tender memories. Uncle Cyrus was a familiar figure among all classes for 60 years, and during that time was always a faithful and well-beloved citizen and public servant. He was born in Fitchburg May 20, 1796, and died March 12, 1884. He was a teacher of singing for 30 years in 28 towns besides Fitchburg. He was also a teacher in the public schools for several years. He was a selectman and assessor 16 years, overseer of the poor 34 years and a member of the Board of Health one year. He was always a faithful and efficient officer, a friend and benefactor to the poor, a helper in every good cause and was warmly loved by all. After his death the citizens procured a full-sized portrait of him and presented it to the city to be hung in city hall. But greater than his usefulness as an officer of the city was his love and value of music. In this he was higher and better than any other public servant. The lessons taught by teachers in the public schools are forgotten, the sermons preached by ministers become obliterated, but the songs taught by Father Thurston will ever remain in the memories of his pupils.

Whispers and Rumors.

The engraving company which has been making the engravings for the front page of this paper pays Mr. Moulton a high compliment. Nearly all the pictures we sent to them from which to make our engravings were photographs made by Mr. Moulton and they say that his pictures are not only the best we have sent, but are as fine as any received from anywhere. Seeing that they receive pictures from all parts of the country this speaks well for Mr. Moulton.

The ladies having in charge the arrangements for the seventh annual party of the Wednesday club of Christ church, to be given in city hall on Feb. have almost completed all details. The party promises to be one of the best the society has yet given. The following are the members of the Clef Quartette: First tenor, J. J. Herick; second tenor, F. W. Miller; first bass, G. H. Barker; second bass, J. E. Hennesy. Their first tenor has a beautiful voice, and all their selections are exceptionally fine. The Russell orchestra will furnish music and E. M. Read will supply the ice creams and frozen puddings.

The annual supper of the Merchants Association has been fixed for Friday next. A change will be made this year and instead of going to a hotel, Grand Army hall has been hired and a caterer specially engaged for the occasion. The menu promises to be of exceptional excellence, especially the last part of it. There are several points which make the change an advantage and apparently only one which may be called a disadvantage. Neither of our large hotels are anxious to undertake the work on account of their regular custom. When the dinner is given at the hotels it is late before it is through, which considerably interferes with the post-prandial exercises. The speaking on this occasion ought to have something of considerable interest in it and probably will, and there will be a special advantage in having the dinner commence early so that the flow of oratory will not have to be stopped prematurely. The only apparent disadvantage is in having to go out of town for a caterer, but there is a redeeming feature to this even, with which the public will be acquainted later.

E. I. Whitcomb, formerly in the employ of George H. Randel, Central Market, has leased the premises at No. 17 Prichard street, formerly occupied by F. I. Billings, and will open a meat market there on Tuesday next.

The pupils of the High School are reminded that their contest for the gold watch will close on Saturday next. As we previously announced we shall be unable to publish all the essays, because they have delayed so long in sending them. All the essays will be submitted to the judges next week and the winning essay, and one or two of the remaining best will then be published as early as possible. You will find the boy's watch in Mr. Rodger's window and the girl's watch in Mr. Vanderwarker's window.

A SOUVENIR
—OF—
FITCHBURG, MASS.,
CONSISTING OF
31 Different Views
—OF—
BUILDINGS, STREETS, ETC.
25 Cents Each.
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J. E. THOMPSON, STATIONER,
118 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.
By mail, postpaid, upon receipt of price.

RIGHT TO THE POINT.
Do you believe in making the best possible use of your money?
Do you want to get the most that you can for a dollar?
Do you want that dollar to buy not only the most but the best?
IF SO
Purchase your Clothing, Hats, and furnishings of
Albee, Lyons & Co.

GOOD NEWS
Ranges & Parlor Stoves.
FURNITURE.
ALL KINDS.
CASH OR EASY TERMS.
GATELY & CO.
5 Day Street.

An Old Fashioned Winter.
Overcoats, Ulsters, Reefers, Heavy Suits, Furs, Fur Caps, Fur Coats, Robes, Blankets, and Warm Underclothing are in great demand.
H. A. GOODRICH & CO.
Carry a large stock of these goods, which they propose to sell at prices to meet all competition.
Everything in winter goods, that we have in stock, will be sold at a price that will make it an object to buy now while winter is upon us.
Those who wait till spring for bargains, this year, may get left.
While the weather is cold, we are warmed up for business, and will let the winter goods go at spring prices.
H. A. Goodrich & Co.,
Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

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153 & 378 Main St.,
FITCHBURG, MASS.
GROCERIES.
TEAS.
COFFEES.
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CROCKERY.
ETC., ETC.
LOWEST PRICES.

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CONFECTIONER,

181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

MAPLE GROVE FARM SAUSAGES

BETTER THAN THE DEERFOOT SAUSAGES.

TRY THEM!

—AT—

CENTRAL MARKET,

304 Main Street.

GEO. H. RANDEL.

5-lb. Boxes Vermont Butter, 27c. per lb.

Canned Sweet Corn, 10c. per can.

Canned Tomatoes, 10c. per can.

Canned Peas, 2 cans for 25c.

10 Bars Cobb's Borax Soap and Cottage Hearth Magazine for six months for $1.00.

Old Caldwell Coffee, 38c. per lb.

—AT—

W. M. GRAY'S,

389 MAIN ST.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

Jottings by the Way.

Judging from appearances the Plymouth Rock pants here was not as solid as the original rock, more like the Arabs who fold their tents etc.

The next Old Folk's Basket party and dance will be given in music hall, Wednesday evening. A very enjoyable party is promised to all patrons.

Young people who desire to take singing lessons from a Boston teacher will find Miss Anna Burt, soloist and teacher at 14 Payson street from Tuesday to Saturday weekly.

Charles E. Kirby has moved into room 2, 162 Main street, and is now dealing in high grade investments and securities. He also continues his connection with the Travellers' Insurance Company.

So the talk about the Y. M. C. A. building appears to be amounting to something. The executive committee will be here Feb. 12 and an important gathering is looked for. Let's see, how much is that fund now?

Sleigh parties are still numerous although the roads are not in the best condition. Lancaster and Ashburnham appear to be the favorite places for the parties to visit. A big party will go to Landlord Lovell's next week.

The second annual concert and ball of the Bricklayers and Masons Union, No. 19, will be given at city hall Friday evening, Feb. 6. The Russell orchestra will furnish music and supper will be served at Hayward's Temperance hotel at 50 cents per plate.

L. A. Cousins has opened Public Market No. 2 at 374 Main street. Mr. Cousins has built up a large and prosperous business since opening "down town." One young man who tries to be funny says the market up town is cousin to the one down town.

The re-election of Supt. of streets J. A. Battles appears to give very general satisfaction around town. Quite true there were some who wished to oust him in favor of Mr. Larkin, but that does not seem to be the wisest course at present. When a change is made Mr. Larkin's previous experience in the department will entitle him to a front seat of consideration.

The Ladies' Union Aid Society calls the attention of the public to the sale, concert and dance at city hall, Wednesday evening next. The proceeds, after paying expenses, will be devoted to the fund for establishing a home for destitute children, and the object is such a good one that it deserves substantial support.

The Scotch residents of this city and vicinity are preparing to celebrate the 132nd anniversary of the birth of Burns in royal style. Judging from the appearance of the program the most fastidious cannot complain, and lovers of Scotch music must look upon it as a treat. One novel feature will be the dancing by the McDonald sisters of Boston, in full Highland costume, to music furnished by Duncan McLean, the champion bagpipe player of America. The singers are all men and women of high reputation, and their names are a sufficient guarantee that they will ably perform their parts. In answer to a question recently asked, why Scotchmen are so enthusiastic regarding Burns, a Scotchman said: "Well, we think the chief reason lies in the fact that Robert Burns has endeared himself in Scottish hearts because (pardon me for using the word) he Scotticised his poetry, thus making his writings intelligible to all Scotchmen. A number of people point the finger of scorn at his convivial habits. That class we would ask to read his poem entitled "The Unco Guid," one verse of which reads:

To catch dame Fortune's random smile,
Assidour wait upon her,
And gather gear by every wile
That's justified by honor;
Not for to hide it in a hedge,
Nor for a train attendant,
But for the glorious privilege
Of being independent.

Then when we read his poems to the Mouse and likewise to the Daisy, we must come to the conclusion that our poet was tender hearted. Burns must have felt the necessity of having religion "deep planted in the breast," or he could never have written the "Cotters' Saturday Night." In this poem he gives an ideal picture of a Scotch family gathered together for family worship, and near the end of the poem exclaims:

From scenes like these old Scotia's grandeur rise,
Which makes her loved at home, revered abroad.
Princes and lords are but the breath of kings,
An honest man's the noblest work of God.

CALL AT

E. M. READ'S,

SATURDAY,

For some of those

∴ Cream Mints ∴

AND

Butter Caramels.

OUR OWN MAKE.

Everybody delighted with them.

Large assortment of flavors.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

Fitchburg smokers will appreciate this bit of wit from New York. "Wharf rats along the North River front between Rector and Liberty streets have adorned the blanks under the big painted advertisements on the sidings of the piles with many specimens of untutored wit. Under the flaming recommendation of a celebrated five-cent cigar appear in great black sprawling characters, the words: 'Smok butts, they ar the best;' and a little beyond; 'Try other peples cigars, they ar the cheapest.'"

A Springfield undertaker received a pretty worked card on New Year's day to hang in his window or office reading as follows, a la Kodak style: "You kick the burke; we do the rest." How the dear public receives this polite advice we do not know as the undertaker has not yet publicly displayed his card.

Rev. R. A. Fernham, pastor of the Methodist church at Cutter, Me., has resigned and a report went abroad that ill health was the cause. The Rev. gentleman, however, published the statement that ill health was not the cause of his resignation. He says that he boarded himself, swept the church, made the fires and rang the bell. The people swore at him whittled and ate peanuts in meeting time, fired pistols and threw stones at his house, came to church any time before the benediction, laughed aloud during the service, etc. He says rum is sold openly in the town, and no one tries to enforce the law. That is rather hard on a struggling clergyman. If Mark Twain wants to write up a second Buck Fanshaw there is a good opening for him.

The Keene *Observer* says: "Fitchburg people are talking of little else than the new city government which was inaugurated last week, prominent in which is our recent townsman, City Marshal Locke. Mr. Locke is now chief of the Fitchburg police, and announces that he will follow the lead of Mayor Graves, who is determined to crush out the sale of liquor. His predecessor was notoriously lax in enforcing the liquor law—hence he is now a plain citizen. It has been given out in Fitchburg that Mr. Locke was an important factor in the liquor crusade in this city two years ago, though, oddly enough, rumors are abroad that he was a very valuable advisor to the dealers just before raids were made by the officers; at least in some cases. But all great men are at times calumniated, and our ex-city marshal may not hope to be free from the evils which annoy other eminent reformers." The new mayor of Lynn when elected was expected to reappoint the city marshal. When the time came to re-appoint him he staggered the people by refusing to appoint Marshal Hill, although the people wanted Hill. The mayor said he was master of the situation and would remain so. The people of Lynn now conclude that they have got a czar to rule over them. But then, a year is not long. This year may be a surprise party to Mayor Fogg. We had surprise parties in Fitchburg last year. There is a difference of opinion about him, however, as will be seen from the following from the Keene *Sentinel:* "Great interest is being manifested as to whether the new city marshal will be as effective in his work as his predecessor. The ex-city marshal has established a good order of things, and if strictly attended to can be enforced with very little trouble by the present incumbent."

Most every one suffers more or less at this time of the year from sore throat. One of our exchanges says this is an excellent remedy: "If the throat is very sore, wring a cloth out of cold salt and water and bind it on the throat tightly, when going to bed. Cover it with a dry towel."

SACHET POWDERS.

—

TRY OUR NEW ODORS,

Cherry Blossom and Arbutus.

EXQUISITE AND LASTING.

H. A. ESTABROOK & CO.,

APOTHECARIES,

CORNER MAIN AND PRICHARD STREETS

D. G. HORTON,

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

BREAD, CAKE

—AND—

PASTRY.

CRACKERS OF ALL KINDS.

306 Main St., - Fitchburg.

BOSTON

Dry Goods Store.

Important Cut In the Prices of

LADIES' AND MISSES' CLOAKS.

In order to quickly close out our entire stock of Ladies' and Misses' Cloaks, we have decided to cut the price on each Cloak to just one-half of the former price.

That means that a Cloak that

Formerly sold for	$8.00	will now cost you	$4.00
"	"	"	10.00	"	"	"	5.00
"	"	"	12.00	"	"	"	6.00
"	"	"	14.00	"	"	"	7.00
"	"	"	16.00	"	"	"	8.00
"	"	"	18.00	"	"	"	9.00
"	"	"	20.00	"	"	"	10.00

As we are confident that these prices will quickly sell the entire stock, we advise an early call, to insure a good assortment to select from.

E. E. STAPLES,

BOSTON DRY GOODS STORE. 178 MAIN STREET.

ALFRED DOLGE

FELT SLIPPERS,

ALSO A FULL LINE OF

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS!

For Ladies and Gents.

We put the Wilson Clasp on all Lace Boots we sell, free of charge. Try them.

All Goods Warranted as represented.

D. H. PIERCE'S

CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,

185 Main St.

M. W. CUMMINGS,

Undertaker & Embalmer.

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

COFFINS, CASKETS, AND FUNERAL FURNISHINGS.

ROOMS AT 211 MAIN STREET.

RESIDENCE, 76 LAUREL ST.

Chairs to let for Funerals and other occasions.

TELEPHONE.

211 Main St., - - - FITCHBURG, MASS.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

Speaking of the World's fair, Worcester *Light* has the following, which applies just as well to this city: "What preparation is Worcester making for the World's fair? What distinguishing industry is to represent us there? How many people will visit Chicago and find machinery in motion of whose existence in their own Worcester they had no notion? Such a thing is possible. At the World's cotton exhibition in New Orleans the writer found a Worcester man running a machine, whose home, so to speak, was in the heart of the Commonwealth, a very useful and successful invention, but it was quite new to him. We have to go away from home to get the news.

A Main street storekeeper was staggered one day this week at receiving the following modest epistle: "sir Pleas exeang the sawdar and fix my Boiler i was told to get five cts worth and i could Doo it my Self But i cant i Dont no how if you will Due a grate favor for a Poor Woman if you Would exchang with me and give me a new one for this one there is good coper in this: Paid 7 Dollar for this one 5 years and it is fast Waring throw." The note was sent by a child. Probably the woman is poor, but as no name was given and the child could not answer questions very satisfactorily, the storekeeper concluded that charity commences at home, and for the present will stay there.

The following from the Providence *Critic* will be appreciated by many. "A good story is told at the expense of a prominent business man of this city. The gentleman recently purchased a small but improved type-writing machine, and in conversation with a friend soon after informed him of this fact, at the same time commending it very highly, and remarking that he could hold it on his lap. The friend was interested and said he would like to see it. He accordingly called at the business man's office a day or two later, and found him in. There was also another person in the room, but without taking note of this fact the visitor said: "Where is that little type-writer that you hold on your knee?" Before a reply could be made, an indignant young lady arose from her chair, and forsaking the type-writing machine which she was manipulating, hurriedly left the apartment. An interval of silence followed, then the young lady was hunted up and explanations were made. It was some time, however, before she could be convinced that the visitor was making inquiries about a machine."

Rev. Father Drummond, of Montreal, has issued an edict that persons entering his church after half-past eight o'clock shall pay an admission fee of twenty-five cents. In explaining his reason the rector said the late visitors disturbed the worshipers. Besides the loud talking, he had been informed that there was considerable flirting indulged in, and that young men had been discovered with their arms around their fair companion's waists. Hugging girls in church may be very nice, but it is also very naughty, and the young men who indulge in it should be willing to pay the penalty.

A druggist in a neighboring city was quite recently the victim of a rarely rich joke. A little girl was sent to his store for a bottle-full of some medicine. Returning home with the medicine her father took the phial and at once returned to the druggist and asked if he had put up the contents by prescription or not. At first he said he had, but finally admitted that he had had no prescription. "Give me $35 in cash or I will have you arrested," threatened the father. This the druggist refused to do and the man left him, with a renewed threat if he did not come with the money to his house before morning he would have him "pulled." The more the druggist thought of it the more frightened he grew and after a hasty consultation with a lawyer went and paid the bounty, $35. The next day he stated his case to the chief of police, who remonstrated with him for his stupidity, and told him his only recourse was to swear out a warrant for the man's arrest. The warrant was served but the man had gone and has not been seen about since.

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Best grade of Flour at lowest prices.
Canned goods very low.
One can very best California Apricots or Cherries, one can of Peaches, two cans of Tomatoes and two cans of Corn or Peas, state Maine packing, for

ONE DOLLAR.

A good can of Peas for 10c. Old Pop Corn, Boxes of choice Boneless Fish, not a bone in it. Nice Butter and Fresh Eggs. New Orleans Molasses.

PERLEY HOLMES.

A Nicht wi' Burns.

SECOND ANNUAL

GRAND

CONCERT AND BALL

At CITY HALL, JANUARY 30.

—BY THE—

Scotch Residents of Fitchburg and vicinity to celebrate the 132nd anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns.

The Committee of Arrangements has secured the services of the Celebrated

McDONALD SISTERS

of Boston, two of whom (aged respectively 9 and 13 years) will appear in full Highland costume and give exhibitions in Sword Dance, Highland Fling and Shean Trew.

Mr. DUNCAN McLEAN, Champion Bagpipe Player of America, will furnish music for them.

They have also secured the services of the following eminent artistes.

Miss ANNIE M. SHERRIFF, Soprano, Boston.
Miss LIZZIE J. FARRELL, Favorite Contralto, Fitchburg.
Miss DAISY McTAGGART, Favorite Contralto, Fitchburg.
Miss GERTIE McDONALD, the leading serio-comic vocalist, of Boston.
Mr. PERCY J. J. COOPER, Eminent Tenor, Boston.
Mr. JOHN A. ROBERTSON, Favorite Scotch Baritone of Boston.
Mrs. R. E. HOLGATE a Fitchburg Accompanist.

The committee, in placing such an array of first-class artistes before the public, feel assured that the coming concert of the 30th will be the best ever held in this city.

"Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brocht to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And the days o' auld lang syne?"

Tickets may be procured of the following Committee of Arrangements:—David Syme, Chairman, James Wilson, Sec'y., James Proctor Treas., Thomas Downie, James Roberts, Andrew Stirling, Wm. G. Espie, Jos. McGregor, Alex. Frew, Wm. McDonald, Wm. Brodie, Archibald Hill, Geo. Hutchings.

Music by the Russell Orchestra.

Town Talk.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

One of our readers who wishes to be known as "Ambulance" writes as follows: "Referring to your article in today's issue of Town Talk (Jan. 17), concerning the need of an ambulance wagon in this city, I wish to say that I fully agree with you as to the need of such a vehicle, but when it comes to putting in bids for furnishing it, please give me a chance, and I will bid several hundred dollars below your lowest estimate. You are way off." Powers that be please take notice of this.

Nashua has one chemical engine and has ordered another. Brockton has two and will shortly add another. The reason is that experience demonstrates that more effective work can be done by these appliances than by any other. A chemical engine is worth two hose companies, one chief says.

A large audience attended the fourth concert of the C. C. course, Monday evening. An interesting feature was the first appearance of the new Schumann Club, under the direction of Mr. C. E. Keyes. The club consists of 16 male voices, and by their singing gave evidence of good progress. Mr. Mason, in his solo, and Mrs. Ezra Coleman, in a selected song, were very enjoyable, and Miss McTaggart, in response to an encore, gave "Annie Laurie" in true Scotch style. The duet, "Trust Her Not," was well rendered by Messrs. C. E. and H. W. Keyes, and was redemanded, as was also the humorous quartette, "Tom, the Piper's Son," sung by Messrs. Mason, Keyes, Keyes and Parker. The cornet solo, by Mr. Mauch, was played with the finish and expression which make him a favorite soloist. The piano accompaniments were well played by Mrs. Abbott, and the entertainment was made complete by the excellent and appropriate selections of the Russell Orchestra.

The new chief of police is settling down to work and is studying the city ordinances, state laws etc., which are, of course, different from those he has been used to, so as to know just what he has to do. Mr. Locke is very pleasant and seems anxious to become thoroughly familiar with the requirements of his office. He speaks well of the men composing the force and also of all our citizens whom he has met. Quite a number have called upon him and judging from his conversation he is very favorably impressed with Fitchburg so far. Ex-Chief Lawrence has called upon him once or twice and cordially greeted him. Mr. Lawrence expects to remain in Fitchburg and will probably go into business for himself. Both Mr. Lawrence and his family have many friends in this city.

Prof. Calvin M. Woodward must have been quite pleased with the size of his audiences Monday afternoon and evening. His lectures were really splendid, and it is a pity that both our daily papers could not have published the evening lecture, at least, in full. It was long, to be sure, and would have covered considerable space, but it certainly was very instructive.

The Phila May concert at the Universalist church, Monday evening, under the auspices of the Chapin club, was not favored with the support that it deserved. Probably the other attractions for the same evening had much to do with that. What it lacked in number, however, was made up in enthusiasm and quite a number of encores were responded to. The excellence of the program ought to have crowded the church and probably would but for the causes named.

The Farmess' Supper at city hall, Wednesday evening, was simply an unprecedented success in every respect and it must have been a source of pride and satifaction to the new president of the society that the first gathering over which he was called upon to preside turned out so auspiciously. Over 600 persons sat down to supper but there was sufficient for all and some to spare. The dancers covered the floor in such numbers that at times there could be but little comfort in it, but all were in for a good time and good naturedly put up with what inconvenience there was. Several dances were so popular and so thoroughly enjoyed that repetitions were demanded. Apparently everything was very satisfactory and the arrangements left little to be desired. The general impression was, however, that the committee in charge made a mistake in not having ice cream on sale during the dancing hours.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,
INSURANCE,
210 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

FIRE INSURANCE.
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

For the next Thirty Days we shall offer

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS

—IN—

MEN'S, BOYS' & CHILDREN'S

OVER **COATS** CAPE AND ULSTERS.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

A. R. CHILTON,
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIONS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL ST.

MISS ANNA BURT,
SOLOIST AND TEACHER OF VOCAL MUSIC.
Call or address 14 Payson St. from Tuesday to Saturday of each week.

WALTER CONANT,
FISH AND OYSTERS
Fresh all the time, and includes the best varieties. Everything kept in a first-class fish market.

WALTER CONANT,
6 1-2 MAIN STREET.
F-I-S-H.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.
227 Main St., Fitchburg.
We invite the public to call and inspect our
New Glassware.
We have a new kind—Very Handsome.
Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.
LARGE LINE OF
CROCKERY AND PLATED WARE.
F. A. BLANCHARD, Proprietor.

Attention! R. R. Men.

We would call your attention to our SAFETY SHOE.

This Shoe is made especially for Railroad Men and you cannot afford to be without it.

It is made neat and durable, and should occasion require, the foot could be removed from it in a twinkling.

Call and examine.

Price, $2.50.

The Empire Shoe Store,

367 MAIN STREET.

E. H. BURBANK, Prop'r.
E. B. MARSHALL, Manager.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

We are HEADQUARTERS for everything in the line of MILLINERY, from a Baby's Bonnet for 25 cts. to a Lady's Hat for $10.

At No. 224, which is connected with the main store, we carry Hosiery, Gloves, Corsets, Underwear, Fancy Goods, Notions, etc.

We sell goods low for cash only.

Our customers know we use them well. We will do the same by you. We are agents for Lewando's French Dye House of Boston, the best in the country. We have sent 969 packages since taking the agency about three years ago.

We send Tuesdays and Fridays.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

CHAS. E. KIRBY,
AGENT.
TRAVELERS LIFE AND ACCIDENT
INS. CO. of Hartford,
AND DEALER IN HIGH GRADE
INVESTMENT SECURITIES.

162 Main St., room 2.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That the change in the weather rather spoiled the trotting on the ice.

That you had better cut out your votes and send them in for the banner.

That if the ice houses do not catch fire and burn up—or down—ice will not be a scarce article next summer.

That the general impression seemed to be that the management of the Farmer's Supper could have added $25 to the treasury if ice cream had been on sale.

That Dog Constable Starkey says he will get his shooting irons and go after the unlicensed dogs if some one willl make a proper complaint about them.

That next week TOWN TALK will have an interesting true story of a quack doctor who got $120 out of a Westminster woman and $600 out of another women.

That a fellow was seen Wednesday evening walking off with two chickens which he had not paid for. If he will call again the owner of the market will furnish dressing for them.

That report now says "the books" are in the back part of a cupboard in the mayor's office. If so, all right. It is just as well to know where they are and to be sure that they are safe.

That the Farmer's Supper and dance is one of the most enjoyable and social events of the season. Style is not very prominent, but every one who goes seems bent upon having a good time and being sociable. Certainly the party Wednesday evening looked like it.

That President Proctor's first affair was a beauty. He seemed to take great interest in the proceedings and also to enjoy it. By the way the members of the Worcester North say that their president is taking hold of society affairs in a very entertaining manner and the indications are that the society will make big strides this year.

That it is surprising how many grangers there are just about the time for the Farmer's Supper. Some of those present Wednesday evening would cut rather sorry figures (ourselves included) tilling the soil. There was one *genuine* granger present who seemed to think all the others were more accustomed to handle a yard stick than a plow "gosh durned if I don't."

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, Orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest:

Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box will also be provided in front of our office, in future, for the votes.

The following is the Boston Regalia Company's description of the $75 banner to be awarded to the fortunate lodge: Banner 45 inches long by 36 inches wide, made of the best quality of banner silk (double silk and interlined) and handsomely painted, trimmed with gold bullion fringe, lace and cord and tassels, walnut or ash jointed staff, mounted with gilt metal eagle, spear or some other device, cross pole with gilt ends, black patent leather belt, complete, value $75.

FOR LUMBER

Call at yard of

C. A. PRIEST LUMBER COMPANY,

45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.

If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

LORIN HOSLEY,
BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.
Blank Books Made to Order.
Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.
360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS

FAMILY WASHINGS

50 CTS. A BASKETFUL,

—AT THE—

CITY ÷ STEAM ÷ LAUNDRY,

229 MAIN STREET.

What's the matter with our public clocks? I think the frost must have affected them, or perhaps it was the McKinley bill, but in either case they should be like Cæsar's wife, above suspicion. Which one is right? I have on more occasions than one noticed that the Rollstone church clock has varied five or six minutes from the depot clock, and quite recently the Rollstone clock went on a strike and refused to budge for ever so long, or perhaps I should say it refused to strike. Then the up-town clock, that often varies several minutes from the depot clock. Sometimes it is four or five minutes fast; if Mrs. Cæsar was anything like it she must have been quite a character. It is very well to be just a little fast sometimes. If you look at the clock and conclude that you have ten minutes left to catch a train and leisurely walk down street only to find that the train you intended to catch has been gone four minutes, the clock is apt to be the unconscious cause of some profanity. Especially do you love that clock if it happens that it really is fast and, not knowing this, you hurry to the depot to find that it is six minutes fast and the train is fifteen minutes late. All that exertion and perspiration for nothing breeds disgust with public clocks. Why not have a little more uniformity among them?

I am almost afraid to have another article about the opera house. I should not be surprised if Manager Dunn and the ushers were to go around the house gunning for me if I keep on, and your readers, too, will think your raven is putting in full time at the play to the neglect of other duties. This time, however, I am not going for the men who get dry during a performance or the manager for not adopting metropolitan ideas, or the front row even, but for the ladies. "Why, you horrid old bird," says a young lady near me, "I'll pull every feather out of your black body." Well, that's what I expect some of these days. But what I was going to say is this. Why don't you ladies start the fashion of not wearing your hats at the play? It would be ever so much nicer—for those behind you—and I see no more reason for wearing them at a play than there is for wearing them in the house. Why, ladies, I think the men would be so pleased that they would open a subscription list to buy a $500 seal skin sacque for the lady that introduces this custom. But don't blame me if they fail to start the subscription list.

Some time since the Merchants' Association agitated the subject of a market day, but of late the matter has not received much attention. One of the first things the new Board of Trade ought to interest itself in is this question. At present the matter lies in a very unsatisfactory condition, and to leave it without doing anything to arrive at a definite understanding as to the railroad company's feelings regarding it, will make it harder for any other committee at a later date to accomplish anything. This will be a good thing for the Board to commence with, and it is one upon which the two organizations can unite and work together. It affects the merchants closely; it affects the Board of Trade because it affects the merchants, and the railroad company will listen with respect and attention to the requests of a committee which has at its back about 600 business men. If the two bodies jointly map out a conservative and well-arranged plan for a market day, and present it by a representative committee to the railroad company, it will receive the attention it deserves. Don't lose sight of the market day scheme is the advice of a raven.

I can see very plainly that I am destined to get into trouble if I continue to speak of these public matters. I am going to speak of something now that probably affects a number who read Roes Paven's part of this paper. I allude to the practice of going into public places when the exercises are in progress. Take city hall for instance. On inauguration day the mayor did not commence the exercises until some 10 or 15 minutes after the appointed time, presumably to allow the people to get seated, but the crowds continued to come, and did so until he finished. Take any concert or lecture in the same hall, and you will find that people come in and often make considerable noise in going to their seats during the singing or speaking. Quite recently a lecture was announced for 7.45, but it was considerably past eight when it began, and people continued to enter after the speaker commenced and while he was speaking. This is quite annoying to those who make it a practice to be present at the appointed time and who wish to see or hear all there is to be seen or heard. The ravens think it is unfair to continue the practice, and by a unanimous vote of the ravens' club it has been decided that this is one of the practices which the ravens must continue to attack. Speaking of lectures, etc., at this place, would it not be an improvement if a width of matting were laid the full length of the aisles on all occasions when the seats are not to be removed for dancing?

I think the horses must have had a pretty hard time of it of late, especially the street car horses and other hard-working beasts. The snow for the past few days has been like so much sand, and the horses must have found it terribly hard work. Such snow as this is hardly a soft snap to them. Electricity, when fully developed, will be a blessing to the poor car horse. The work now done by them will in a great measure be done by that mysterious fluid. By the way, our electric railway here does not seem to make much progress. There was some talk of commencing work in the spring, but I am told it has been abandoned. Some one informs me that the reason is that the company is holding back a little in the hope that the storage battery system may be made more available than at present.

ROES PAVEN.

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THE HIGH SCHOOL CONTEST.

The competitive essays for the prize of a Gold Watch to be awarded Feb. 7, 1891.

OLD ROLLSTONE.

It was a cold winter day the eleventh of February, 1676. The ground was covered with a light snow, the sky almost as blue as summer.

The few scattered log homes, on what is now the Lancaster road, were all in a state of excitement and confusion. The Indians all along had been friendly, but had suddenly disappeared, and word had been brought that they had gone on the war-path. Previous to this no anxiety had been felt by the settlers and they hardly credited the rumor.

The news however proved only too true and just as the sun went down the redskins came in sight, and with their wild war-whoop shook the forest.

Houses were set on fire and the almost defenceless people driven from them, and captured. Many had fled and sought shelter in the house of the minister but at last this was burned and all the inmates, save the minister's wife, Mrs. Rowlandson, and her six months old baby were captured.

Mrs. Rowlandson fled she knew not where, her only thought being to escape the Indians. She almost flew through woodland paths until she came to the Nashua river. Here two Indians caught sight of her and followed. She crossed the river and started up a steep hill. Here she lost sight of her pursuers. She toiled on and on, and when she reached the summit of the hill it was near morning. Fearful of making a sound lest she should betray herself, she sat down with her babe behind a huge rock. But before night, hunger and fear lest her child would die, led her to go on once more in search of help. She started down the hill and had gone only a few steps when the two Indians from whose gaze the rock had hidden her sprang foward and she was their prisoner. She was taken to Canada and afterwards ransomed, her babe being killed on the way. This story she has told of her capture.

It is believed from her descriptions, that the big rock behind which she had sought shelter that terrible night was none other than the boulder on Rollstone Hill. This was probably the first time a white had ascended the hill and stood at its summit.

It is stated by some that Rollstone took its name from that of Mrs. Rowlandson, but no definite foundation for the statement can be found.

Now let us imagine ourselves standing at the boulder at the time of Mrs. Rowlandson's capture. Then as now the hill stood three hundred feet above the river, a solid mass of granite forty-five feet in circumference. Looking to the south-west about seven miles stood Wachusett; to the northwest, Watatic; and nearly opposite, Pearl Hill. The river gliding silently along its banks lined with forests; here and there in the vicinity of Pearl Hill could be seen a cleared place with its log hut.

Now standing in the same spot look southwest and there is Wachusett, northwest and there is Watatic, and opposite Pearl Hill, but *what* a change! No longer at the foot of the hill does the river glide along, but rushing past, tells you of the work it does, the machinery it runs. All along its banks here and there great mills with their clashing machinery; in the distance can be seen the train puffing along down the railroad with its load of freight and passengers.

Over on Pearl Hill, are thrifty farms and here and there a greenhouse; on neighboring hills are grand and stately homes, while the valley is crowded with neat and happy homes, the places of busisnes of a happy and prosperous people.

Oh time and change! what future prospect are you working out for our fair city?

Old Rollstone stands today and will stand a blessing to our city. It is a source of great industry. Its huge mass of solid granite of good quality, furnishes labor for scores of men in the quarry.

Let us follow some of this granite. We need go no further than our own city. Wallace Library stands a source of honor and pride to any city. It stands, on a sure and firm foundation of Rollstone granite, useful, ornamental and durable. So in many cities stand massive buildings an honor to Rollstone.

Beautiful homes, whose sure foundation stands on thee, oh Rollstone. The massive boulder now girt about with iron bands is ever a source of interest and serves as a natural tower from whence a view of Fitchburg may be had.

Other cities may boast of their natural resources, their high mountains and beautiful hills but in all picturesque New England is there a hill to be found of more worth to a city than Rollstone?

And where among all the grand views our New England cities afford can be found a more charming and inspiring view than on some bright October day, standing on the boulder of Rollstone, watching the sun sinking slowly into the west casting its ruddy glow over river, hill and valley; and gradually sinking out

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of sight below the horizon, the dusk of eventide stealing over the city; the lights appear, and Old Rollstone casts its protecting shadow over the whole.

Stand! stand! Oh, Rollstone! Cast thy protecting shadow, year after year, over our beloved city until there does not lie in all our country a city more happy and prosperous, more great and good than the fair Fitchburg that lies at thy foot.

RAMBLER.

"OUR AGRICULTURAL FAIR GROUNDS AS A PUBLIC PARK."

Most of the cities of our state, if not all, have a nice park for the enjoyment of its citizens and why should not we?

There has been some talk of the "Nichols Estate" as a public park, but there are some objections to this. One is that being on the top of one of our highest and steepest hills, it is not easy to reach. Another is that it is too far from the center of the city. The park should be especially for the working class. Those that work all day in a little close shop where they cannot breathe the pure air of heaven, those that live in poverty and distress, those who are tired and careworn, and to whom life seems a burden. For such especially should the park be for, that it may bring rest to the weary and cheer to the downcast.

Our city is not yet so large but that from any point by going a mile or two, one can find himself among all the beauties of the country. The wealthy in their carriages can enjoy all this, but the workman has no carriage to take him into the country and for *him* the park should be. The best place in Fitchburg for a park, is our Fair Grounds, now known as "The Fitchburg Park." It is on the direct line of the Street Railway. It is also nearer the centre of the city than the Nichols Estate and easier to reach.

With the proper funds it might be transformed into a beautiful spot and a park of which Fitchburg might well be proud. Why will not some public-spirited citizen give something to the city for this purpose, and if one gave others would doubtlessly follow his example. The park could then be called after one of its contributors as for example, Crocker Park or Phillip's Park.

It would be very nice for two or three hundred acres of land adjoining our park to be bought and added on, including Baker's Pond. This if properly cleaned out and made larger would make a most excellent pond for boating and such sports in summer, and skating in winter. Then through the park drives and walks should be laid out, shade trees should be planted, playing fountains scattered here and there, and grassy lawns, and flower beds. Also swings and such sports for the children. Can you imagine what a beautiful place it would be and how the people would appreciate it? Let us hope that ere long we may see our fair grounds being transformed into a park, of which we may well say, it is "a thing of beauty and a joy forever."

STUDENT.

A STRANGER'S IMPRESSION OF FITCHBURG.

I was born and raised "out West." As I had reached middle life with little recreation and few holidays and had never travelled very much, I decided to make a trip to New England. My plan was to visit nearly all the largest cities and several of the principal manufacturing places, for I was interested in manufacturing and it was really to investigate eastern manufactures that I was going to make this trip.

I had heard that Fitchburg was a flourishing town doing quite a large manufacturing business, as it had many factories, which had helped to build up the place; therefore it was one of the first places at which I stopped.

I knew the city was situated upon the Nashua river, and, as we approached the city in the cars, was looking for a stream worthy of that name, but I was greatly surprised on being informed by a fellow passenger that the little stream that I had been calling a creek, which I supposed

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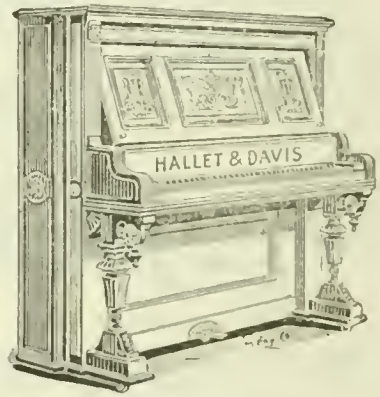

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flowed into the main river farther on, was the river itself.

I found the city very picturesquely situated upon several hills. The thought came to me that Rome would have been a very appropriate name for it, as it was built, like that ancient city, upon the "Everlasting Hills." One of these hills especially seemed to command notice, it was so abruptly outlined against the western sky. I ascertained that this hill, called Rollstone, was composed almost entirely of granite, and that there were quarries there extensively worked; in fact, it might be said that this hill was the corner-stone of Fitchburg, because it had furnished foundations for nearly every building in the city.

A person, I believe, if he is about to visit a new place, always forms some conception of it before he arrives there. My conception of Fitchburg was a city well laid out with broad, straight streets crossing each other at right angles, along each side of which there would be beautiful wide-spreading shade trees, and with large public parks, where, during the summer evenings after a weary day's work, one might sit and be refreshed by listening to the beautiful strains of music from the Fitchburg Band, which I knew was the pride of the city, and where in winter the young people might skate to their hearts' content and coast without encroaching upon the public highway.

But alas for my dream! What streets I saw! My first thought was that the engineer who laid out Main street must have partaken too freely of "tangle-foot," or that he expected the people would not be able to walk in a straight street from the same cause; but upon inquiry I learned that the city was a temperance place, so of course I could not ascribe the crookedness and varying width of the street to that cause.

Where were my beautiful shade trees and public parks? All that I saw were unsightly poles on each side of the street and as for the public parks, I thought I would inquire my way to one. I was told that all the parks the city possessed were that little plot of grass near the depot, where the only ornamental features seemed to be a band-stand and a signs, which said "Keep off the Grass," and similar plot of grass at the upper end of the city, which was a little larger and had a very handsome fountain donated to the city by some of the public-spirited citizens.

The next morning I set out to "do" the city. The public buildings, although they were not as numerous as might be expected in a city of Fitchburg's size, yet they were all substantially built, some of them being quite elegant. I was especially pleased with the Wallace Library and Art Building, both with the exterior and interior. The city seemed well supplied with churches and school-houses, although the latter were somewhat crowded.

As I was wandering rather aimlessly up Main street, a run-away horse came tearing down the street and the man who was in the carriage was thrown out. I stopped, thinking I would wait until the ambulance came up and follow it to the City Hospital, for I had not yet run across any such building; but what was my astonishment to see someone lift the injured man into an express wagon and then stop to discuss where he should be carried. I asked a by-stander if there was not a City Hospital, and he replied that there was one *talked of.*

During my stay, I visited as many of the factories, mills, and shops, as my limited time would allow. I visited the large Paper Mills at West Fitchburg, which surprised me greatly by their magnitude, as they are among the largest in the country. The Cotton and Woolen Mills I also found were doing an extensive business. With the well-appointed machine-shops, I did not wonder that their machinery had gained a national reputation.

While on my way to the depot to take my departure, I was startled by an alarm of fire, hardly had it ceased, when the Fire Department came, at a break-neck speed, down the street. So quickly was the fire under control and so well and systematically was everything done that I thought that nearly all the firemen had gathered, in so short a time, from shops, mills, etc, at the call of duty.

On the whole I was quite favorably impressed with the "little city among the hills," and I thought if some of the citizens, who had sent their money away to be invested in western mining interests, or to boom southern timber lands, had invested nearer home, the city might have been made one of the most picturesque and beautiful in all New England, as it had such great natural beauty.

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JANUARY 24, 1891.

We are accused of following up the subject of the books belonging to the police department, which Mr. Hayden temporarily took possession of, through spite. Spite has nothing whatever to do with it. It is not in any sense a personal matter and we have no personal animosity against Mr. Hayden. It is a public question, and as such we propose to follow it up. It is said they have never been taken away, but it is a fact that they were given up to Mr. Hayden. Somebody claims they have been returned, if taken, but at the time of writing neither the chief of police or the mayor knew of this. If, as has been stated, there is nothing of any moment in these books, why was Mr. Hayden so anxious to obtain them? Whether he knows it or not, Mr. Hayden has placed himself in a very compromising position in the eyes of the public, and injured his future chances for political preferment. If he desires to have the subject dropped it would certainly seem that the easiest way to have it dropped would be to produce them.

***

There is every prospect that the re-organized Board of Trade will be a powerful and influential body, and will have considerable weight in city affairs. The indications are that this organization will probably have a membership of 500, and will be composed of men actively engaged in mercantile pursuits. With a man of energy for secretary, a competent president, both surrounded by men of sound judgment and ability for the different committees, such an organization must carry with it considerable importance, and when its influence is brought to bear in any direction, it cannot help having effect. And of how little consequence this movement was six months ago. We think it would not be a hard task to prove that at the time this paper was started no more attention was paid to the subject than there was to the purchase of a new park for the city, which amounts practically to nothing, as no one bothered about such a thing. But now some of the foremost men in the city have taken hold of the movement, which has been dead for years, and have every prospect of turning into a live and prosperous organization.

***

We do not desire to have it inferred that we wish to imply that this desirable change has been brought about solely by the efforts of this paper, far from it. There have been several causes which have led to this result, but we do think we were the first paper to agitate the thing and keep it in motion since last September. The daily papers have also given valuable space to the same purpose, and the discussions on the same subject in the Merchants' Association have been the sequence of the newspaper agitation. We have done a little, the Merchants' Association has done a little, the daily papers have done a little and the old Board itself has done a little, all combined having been the means of once more setting in motion the wheels of an organization, which, if rightly managed, means better municipal government, better feeling among tradesmen and manufacturers and better results for the city as a whole. All we ask for is to be allowed to aid in every such good movement.

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PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES.

Last week's sketches described a well-known builder and a well-known insurance agent. No. 42 is William H. Goodwin. No. 43 is John Upton.

In every community there are always a few men who are noted above the rest of their fellow citizens for some peculiarity of character, personal appearance or business connections. It sometimes happens that a man has some peculiar fancy or hobby which he nurses to such an extent that it becomes a second nature, and everybody in the place where he resides knows this man either by acquaintance or reputation. This peculiarity may manifest itself in a variety of ways; it may be in a private or public connection, but the result is the same. Everybody knows the man in one way or another. For instance, hundreds who never saw Rodney Wallace know of him. His name is like a household word, and "Bill" Hardy, hundreds know him by this common name, but if the gentleman was given his proper name there are many who would fail to recognize the man at first mention of the name. There may be others of the same name, there often are, but there is that *something* which makes the difference I speak of. That is just the case with No. 44. Forty-four is a good number for him. He is probably just about 44 years old. His name is as familiar to the readers of this paper as the name of the city is. His peculiarity lies in his business connections principally, although his individuality shows itself as much at City hall or G. A. R. hall as it does in his Main street store. During the war he carried a musket and sword—now he carries a hammer, not for the purpose of driving nails, but for clinching bargains. Some fifteen years ago he was located on the opposite side of Main street, and dry goods comprised his stock. Now wet and green goods would better apply to his stock, with a little chin music thrown in Saturday nights. By the way, he is a native of Nantucket and came here about 1864.

No. 45 is a tall, well-built, good-looking man of perhaps 45 years of age, and came here from Pittsfield just about the same time that No. 44 came here from Boston. He commenced business in Newton lane in a very small way, with a few, small, second-hand machines and four employes, at a period when business was in a rather critical state. Now the same firm has grown into a company, turning out several thousand dollars' worth of work weekly and employing about 120 hands. Evidently, therefore, he is a business man, as he has remained at the head of his concern all these years. He is a man of considerable weight, not simply from an avoirdupois standpoint, but socially and politically. I am told that he once had a rather extraordinary experience, the result of a resemblance to another distinguished man, which caused him a little inconvenience and annoyance when a long distance from home. It was just at the time that Booth had killed Lincoln, and when all the country was in a state of excitement over that tragic event. No. 45 was in Baltimore, and later in another city, and in each place an enterprising officer spotted him, thought he was Booth and "ran him in." He was soon able to prove that the officer would have to try again, however. The morning after the murder a lady went into a shoe store here to purchase a pair of shoes. While examining them some one rushed in and stated that Lincoln was shot. Tears sprang to her eyes, and in great agitation the lady left the store, without the shoes, and followed the crowd to the depot to learn all about the shooting, and later about the embarrassing arrest. When he was a young fellow he was especially noted for his soldierly and handsome appearance, and when he used to alight at the depot he was the admiration not only of the ladies, but also of the men. Who is No. 45?

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THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER I.

THE ARRIVAL.

The afternoon train from Keene and Bellows Falls was two hours late at Ashburnham Junction, and there it met with another delay. A derailed freight car lay across the track of the Vermont & Massachusetts.

Now, according to all precedents, a freight car is transcending its ordinary rights and principles of decorum in getting itself crosswise upon the rails, and in the case under consideration, the afore-mentioned car added insult to injury by choosing an hour for the performance of its antic when a certain passenger upon the train from the north was in the mood to endure no new indignities. To show that he was not to be imposed upon thus with impunity, this irate passenger stood upon the platform of the well-behaved car in which he had accomplished so much of his journey and swore roundly at the men who, with jacks and iron bars and muscles, were slowly but surely removing the obstruction. To his mind these workmen were a set of dolts and blockheads, and he was surprised that any enlightened railroad company should employ such.

These opinions, uttered in a loud voice and directed to a sleepy-looking youth who carried the gentleman's valise for him, were of course intended for reproof and instruction to the burly boss of the laborers, but, to the gentleman's disgust, the boss paid not the slightest attention to the remarks or advice. He seemed to entertain the absurd idea that he knew as much about clearing a track of wreckage as the passenger did.

"Barker," said the gentleman to his attendant, "do you know how far we are from Fitchburg?"

"'Bout ten miles, the conductor was sayin', sir," said the youth with an indolent droop of his sleepy-looking eyes.

"And did the conductor say how long he intended keeping us here?" pursued the gentleman, with a severity in his tone that implied a purpose of whipping the conductor, who stood within hearing, over the back of his attendant.

"He didn't say, sir."

"Well, Barker, will you see if the conductor has the civility to inform you. Tell him that I purchased a ticket of the company of which he is the agent and that the ticket entitles me to transportation to Fitchburg, and that I demand an immediate fulfilment of the contract."

The conductor was seen to chuckle without glancing at the speaker. Barker approached him in stolid obedience and asked the required question. The official chuckled again, but made no reply, and the youth returned to his master.

"He don't say nothin', Mr. Warfield," said Barker.

"Which shows him to be persistently obstinate and unfaithful," retorted the gentleman savagely.

"Yes, sir," assented the youth.

"Do you suppose there is a team to be had for money in this benighted region?" demanded Mr. Warfield.

"I should think likely, sir."

"Then go and hire one. Here,—" as Barker started to comply—"if you can't hire, buy. We mustn't delay any longer. Quick about it."

The youth waddled down the road from the station toward a dwelling which had a small stable attached. He had barely disappeared when, with a "heave, ho!" from the workmen, the end of the refractory freight car swung around and the boss shouted:

"All clear. You can go ahead."

A hammer struck the rails to see if they were in place, the conductor held up his hand and said "all aboard!" the bell rang and the train started, while the angry passenger shouted and gesticulated with the vehemence of a windmill.

"Hold on, can't you—for my man, Barker, you know!" he cried, tugging at the conductor's arm.

"Let your Barker bark," was the dry retort. "You have been tewing to get to Fitchburg, and now if we don't haul you there it will be because we haven't steam enough." And the long-suffering servant of the road went on his way through the train, which was fast getting under way.

Mr. Warfield glared back at the station now receding in the distance and the crooked stretch of track which might have almost led him to think they were returning to their starting point. His face wore a grimly determined look. It would not have been an unpleasant face could it but have relaxed its severity of expression. There was an alertness about the eyes that betokened a power of concentration which belongs only to able men. His unreasonable impatience was only one weakness; he had much strength in other directions, and

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might possibly have appreciated the humor of his situation had the victim been another instead of himself.

He was a young man, of slight build and quick, nervous movements. His voice was somewhat harsh, his speech sharp and distinct.

"When is there another train?" he asked of the brakeman whom he followed into the car.

"Going the same way?" the other asked.

"Of course."

"Half past eight."

"Then Barker can come on that, or get a team to fetch him, as he started to do. It's my fault letting him go off that way."

Mr. Warfield dropped into a seat and fell into a reverie. No stops were made until the first of the bridges over the Nashua was crossed, and then the passenger was aroused by the rumbling and noticed that they were going into a large town.

"This is Fitchburg," he heard some one say, and he looked out with a curious interest. The next moment they were at the station, and as he stepped out upon the platform he glanced alertly along the line of idlers standing next to the station building. He saw one step forward and hold up his hand in a peculiar manner, and Mr. Warfield instantly answered the signal.

"Your brother said ye'd know by that," declared the person who had signaled, taking the passenger's valise and starting off at a swift, loping gait that Warfield could hardly keep pace with.

"Is my brother here?" the latter demanded.

"Land, no. He wouldn't come down no more'n he'd cut his fingers off. He daresn't leave the house a minute. He said I could fetch ye jest as well. Sent me down with a covered kerriage."

"His team?"

"Yes."

"You work on the farm, I suppose?"

"On *my* farm, not on his'n. Land, no; he don't keep any hands stiddy, not since the trouble. Don't believe he could hire 'em to live in the house. *I* wouldn't stay there. I'd camp out in the pastur' first and sleep under a blueberry bush."

The voluble individual had reached his team and flung the gentleman's valise under the seat.

"We've got eight or ten miles to go, I presume?" Mr. Warfield inquired as his companion drove up on the street and struck out upon a road leading into the country.

"Twelve, I call it; some say fifteen," was the reply.

The stranger relapsed into silence, leaning back in the carriage and giving his mind up to reflections, which, to judge by his countenance, were not wholly pleasant ones. The town was left behind, and as darkness had settled upon the scene the drive promised to be a lonely one.

"You live near the Warfield homestead, as it is called?" Mr. Warfield asked after a long interval of silence.

"About half a mile beyond it."

"You haven't mentioned your name?"

"Jarvis—Tom Jarvis I'm mostly called."

"And you have a farm of your own that adjoins the Warfield estate?"

"On one side, I'm sorry to say. I wish a fence a mile thick separated 'em."

"So you and James Warfield are not the best of friends?"

"We're good enough friends, but I don't like the goin's-on there, and never did. It's a scandal to the neighborhood. Folks come there from far and wide, jest out of curiosity, and now the sheriff has got hold of the property I'm glad on't. I wish he'd burn it up."

"He will hardly do that, Mr. Jarvis. I haven't asked yet about the sale. I suppose that takes place tomorrow? The train was delayed or I should have been here earlier to help arrange it. Of course I shall bid it in as James wishes, if he can't hold it alone. What is the trouble, anyhow?"

"Trouble?" Tom Jarvis struck the horse and they rumbled a little faster along the hard road. "Why, I supposed everybody knew," Jarvis declared.

"Everybody doesn't know, or at least, I am in the dark about it. I have a letter from James asking me to come, as an attachment has been served on the estate. We wanted to keep it in the family name—in fact, we have a feeling that it will bring disaster if we let it go—a superstition, of course, which I do not credit, and yet one that I choose to yield to."

"The trouble begun when that Fenlow and the girl came there," declared Jarvis.

"Who're Fenlow and the girl?" Warfield demanded.

"They came about a year ago, from where nobody knows. Fenlow was picked up with a broken leg and your brother took him to the house and had him nursed up. The daughter was with him, and of course she stayed. She is a stunner, but queer. Good land! I'd as lief have a witch in my house."

"What do you mean?"

"Why, there's all sorts of stories about what she can do. She'll go into a sort of trance and tell the most extra-ordinary things, and some on 'em come true. I lost a heifer in June—couldn't find hide nor hair of her—nobody'd seen or heard of her. What does that Saadi Fenlow do but tell

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT

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her father that there was a heifer with a broken leg down in a pit in Warfield's north pastur'. Warfield sent his hired man down, and sure enough, there was my heifer pretty nigh starved to death, and Warfield says he didn't know there was sich a pit, and as for the girl, she hadn't been a rod from the house since more'n a week afore the critter was missing."

"Saadi Penlow," repeated the passenger musingly. The odd name, with its melodious syllables, impressed him more strongly than did the story about the missing heifer. In country districts such phenomena are always happening, or at least stories of them are usually current, and the busy, practical people of the larger towns seldom find time to investigate or talk about them. If anything is mysterious, it is mysterious, and that is all there is about it, unless somebody with a scientific turn chooses to look into the matter. Of course a mystery is interesting, if it really be a baffling one, but practical people are not so superstitious as formerly, nor so credulous.

"What has all this to do with James being in trouble?" Warfield asked after a silent interval.

"That is more'n I can tell ye," said Jarvis, a trifle irritated by the slight credence paid to his story of the missing heifer.

"So the young lady is a clairvoyant," continued Warfield. "I don't believe in that nonsense, of course. Not but there are things I can't understand—there have always been psychical mysteries and there always will be until one or two scientific laws that haven't yet been explained receives a proper investigation. Is she pretty?"

"Handsome as a picture," said Jarvis enthusiastically.

"It'll be easier to forgive her being a bit of a humbug, then. How about her father. Has his leg thoroughly mended?"

"He goes round with a crutch. Folks say he is well as he ever was, but that he don't fancy leaving such comfortable quarters. Your brother seems to put a deal of confidence in him."

"That is bad. I'm afraid James has been addled by the pretty young woman. You haven't said anything about the trouble, though. What is the reason James allowed himself to get in such a financial pinch? The property is as good as it ever was, isn't it?"

"Yes, only he has been borrowing money on it. He has mortgaged it heavy to two or three parties. It begun only a year ago, and he's got some other debts. Some on 'em got scared, thinking they'd lose, and so they come down on the property."

"That *is* queer. James used to be a careful man, and when I sold him my share of the estate I thought he would be a better hand to look after it than I. Besides, you know, we never agreed very well to work together. I've a hot temper and he is easy. We used to fight when we were boys, but I don't want to let the estate go into other hands if I have to swing the whole of it."

"You're too late, then, Mr. Warfield," said Jarvis.

"Too late? What do you mean?"

"The property was sold this afternoon."

"*Sold!* And the auction wasn't to be until tomorrow morning."

"I know it, but he changed his mind yesterday, after the word to you had been sent."

The passenger uttered a snarling ejaculation.

"This is infamous!" he cried. Why did he do that? It was illegal, after a public sale had been advertised."

"That's what I tell 'em, but he did it—sent handbills round yesterday announcing the change of date. He expected you would be here afore it come off. I come down with the team after you in the forenoon and then again when this train was due. When they told me at the depot about the train being delayed, I knew you wouldn't get here in time. He'd telegraphed only he thought you'd started and it would miss you."

"Then the property has gone out of his hands and I am too late to save it for our name?"

"Some think it has and some think it hasn't."

"How can there be any uncertainty about it?"

"Because nobody seems to know for certain who bid it off."

"What do you mean?"

"I was there and I heard the bidding. Wilkinson from Leominster was auctioneer. Of course the deed hasn't been delivered yet, but the cash required at the time of sale was paid by your brother, and he took a receipt for it. That's the most I know about it."

"Didn't you hear the bid that got it?"

"Yes."

"Did James make it?"

"No."

"How can you be sure?"

"Because we stood side of each other at the minute. He never opened his lips. I'd swear to that.

"Then who in the name of wonder did buy it?"

"Nobody knows."

"James must know?"

Jarvis proceeded very deliberately to fill and light his pipe, holding the reins betwixt his knees during the operation. After smoking industriously for a short time he said:

"James Warfield may be out of his wits, or he may lie out and out, but he told me he didn't know."

"The man must be a fool then!" cried the passenger, who was nearly beside himself with impatience.

He relapsed into silence, staring grimly ahead into the gray darkness. A chilly wind was blowing from the east and occasionally a drop of rain spattered in their faces. The horse was not a remarkable one for speed, but displayed a dogged persistency of gait that Warfield secretly admired, perhaps because there was the same quality in his own nature. Up hill and down, or along a level stretch the pace was kept up.

Occasionally they would pass a house with lights twinkling from the windows. At one place a man stood in an open doorway, lantern in hand, his figure outlined against the lighted interior of the dwelling. They met only one team—a man and boy in an express wagon, rattling noisily over the road, and eliciting the remark from Jarvis that the wagon "needed washers" or that "the felly was getting dry." A long, monotonous drive to the passenger,

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who could hardly curb his impatience to reach the old homestead.

A number of years had elapsed since he last visited it. As he intimated to Jarvis, he and his brother James entertained no very strong fraternal feeling for each other. Not that there was any standing quarrel between them. They were uncongenial friends, as is so often the case with brothers who are wholly unlike each other, and whose unlikeness has been a source of petty bickerings during the years of their growing up together. Such differences are never fully healed, and when it comes to the deeper relations of mature life the old, lingering traits are sure to tell.

"Aren't we most there? I had forgotten the road was so long," Warfield exclaimed at last.

"I don't know as you ever come over this road—it hasn't been built many years," said Jarvis.

"Then why didn't you come the old road if it was shorter?"

"It isn't shorter, and it's more hilly, only a new road seems further. It did to me the first time I come over it, but we're most there. We come out on the old way just here. Now do things begin to look natural?"

Lights twinkled from a slight elevation just ahead, and Jarvis drove into a long, winding lane irregularly lined by trees.

"This is the old place sure enough," said Mr. Warfield, with that indescribable thrill that one feels upon returning to scenes which are associated with childhood, and which have not been visited for a long period.

They drew up at the door and Jarvis got out, followed by his passenger. The latter went up to the porch, but before knocking he bent his head to peer in at a window, the curtains being only partially drawn.

What he saw within caused him to hesitate, as though a spell had been suddenly cast upon him.

(To be continued.)

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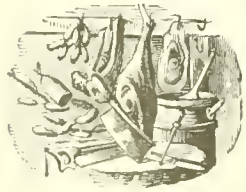

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GEO Z. PAGE

359 MAIN STREET.

Yon Yonson is proving a success and is booked through already to the Pacific coast.

There will be a matinee performance of the Kindergarden at the opera house this afternoon.

On January 5 the Winchester, Ky., opera house was destroyed by fire. The McGibeny Family were at the house and all their instruments and costumes were lost.

A suburban young man presented himself at a Cincinnati box office recently and asked for two seats in the "Rochester." "Here are two in Syracuse," answered the imperturbable advance agent; "they're both in the same state."

Manager Duncan B. Harrison has signed a contract with the Messrs. McMahon, of Her Majesty's Opera House, Melbourne, by which John L. Sullivan will play an engagement at that house next July, and from there make a complete tour of Australia. Mr. Sullivan will sail from San Francisco in June.

Effie Ellsler had a fair house, Friday evening last, although there was a very popular counter attraction. The performance, Miss Manning, was well presented and much enjoyed, but there was not much to enthuse over. John A. Ellsler and Frank Weston both did first rate work and all the parts were in good hands.

The selectmen of Plymouth, Mass., refused to grant a license to a Clemenceau Case company, headed by Lillian Armstrong, to exhibit in that natal town of the Pilgrim Fathers. Efforts were made by the management of the company to have the selectmen witness a private rehearsal of the studio scene, but the Plymouth Rocks were not to be lured into such seductive scenes.

Gus Hill's company includes some of the finest and most wonderful artists on the stage and the entertainment cannot be surpassed. The list of attractions includes Fred J. Huber, Kitty Alyne, Emily Peare, the excellent children performers Eddie and Josie Evans, Estelle Wellington, Gus Hill and Charles H. Hoey, Gilbert Sarony, Blocksom and Burns Little Chip, six years old, and the Schrede Brothers four in number. The entertainment will close with a laughable comedy Married Mashers.

The *Dramatic Mirror* is authority for the statement that Denman Thompson will not retire from the stage yet. The play has been taken off for the present because Mr. Thompson has played the part so long that it has begun to wear on him and his physician advises a change. Mr. Thompson is booked for 33 weeks next season commencing Oct. 1. He will open at Boston for a season of ten weeks. That will be followed by one week in Providence, five weeks at the Grand Opera House, Brooklyn, seven weeks in Philadelphia, and ten weeks in Chicago. The following season—that of 1892-93—he will return to New York, negotiations now being pending for his appearance at an uptown theatre. The Old Homestead will be the play. After that he returns to Chicago in March, 1892, opening at McVicker's Theatre, and playing there during the entire season of the World's Fair.

Next week's attractions at the opera house include Carner in Rip Van Winkle, Monday evening; Hill's World of Novelties, Thursday evening, and Henry E. Dixey in The Seven Ages, Saturday evening. The story of Rip Van Winkle, immortalized in the pages of Washington Irving, will always have a charm for the lovers of the quaint and legendary lore of the old Knickerbocker period. The character as he drew it was that of a good-natured, witty, worthless, drunken vagabond, the life of the old Dutch tavern, the ever-welcome friend and half wary companion of the village children, and the curse of his family, whose inheritance was dwindling away under the shadow of his dissolute and improvident life. Hill's World of Novelties includes some of the finest artists on the road. As an enjoyable evening's entertainment of its class it cannot be beaten and will probably have a large house. As for Dixey he needs no introduction to a Fitchburg audience. His reputation is already made here and he will doubtless maintain it on this occasion. He will probably be favored with a large and distinguished audience.

The prosperity of "Ship Ahoy" at the Park Theatre is unabated to such an extent that the attraction that was to open Monday has been bought off at a considerable expense incurred by Manager Crabtree in order that the clever opera may continue the run that it has so auspiciously begun. The houses during the past week have been large, and the demand for seats is increasing to such an extent that tickets are now placed on sale for two weeks in advance. The visit of the cadets on Tuesday night was a most enjoyable affair and they received the opera with the greatest applause. The American wit and the American songs seem to grow brighter at each performance, and though some of the chorus girls experienced severe shocks to their nervous systems from the fright of the late fire in the Camden House, the march of the marines goes with more vim and is performed with greater accuracy than ever before. Mr. Blair is constantly adding new verses to his topical song "Did it ever occur to you," each one of which punctures some popular fad or fancy. Mr. Favor, as the Commodore, sung his song "I'm a Perfect Commodore" by actual count thirty-one times during the past week, which means a total of 18 encores since last Monday night.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

The Red Hussar at the Globe theatre gave way Thursday to the Pirates of Penzance with Marie Tempest as Mabel. Miss Temple has scored an unmistakable hit at the Globe theatre. Her dash and effective singing have won for her a host of friends.

Packed houses have been the rule at the Hollis street theatre to see Doctor Bill. The play had a 102 nights' run in New York and draws enthusiastic audiences in Boston. Next week Miss Davenport presents Cleopatra. In the fifth act is a very realistic storm scene. Darkness descends and lurid forks of flame cross the sky. Amid the cloud of dust from the deserts the flashes of light reveal the palms swaying in the storm. It is a beautiful stage picture, and it will win the warmest plaudits from the audience.

The Crystal Slipper at the Boston theatre has drawn large and delighted audiences every day since commencing. It closes with tonight's performance. On Monday The Hanlon-Volter and Martinetti English Pantomime and Novelty company will open a brief engagement. Besides the world-famed Hanlon trapeze artists, it includes the Martinetti company in the pantomime "A Terrible Night;" the Montaine troupe in a specialty called "The Chinese Fair;" Dora Emerson, vocalist; the Hurlines, musical clowns; Rodo Rapoli, the ladder balancer; Stebb and Trepp, song and dance pair; Walter Emerson, the celebrated cornet soloist, and others.

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Secret Societies.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

Last week at Young's Hotel, Boston, a largely attended meeting of fraternal beneficiary associations was held, at which 24 Orders were ably represented, numbering 125,000 members, and among whom are no less than 80,000 voters. The *Globe* says that great enthusiasm and earnestness was manifested at the gathering, and at the close of the deliberations a permanent organization was effected; that steps were taken to enter upon an aggressive and determined campaign against all opponents, and to make whatever defence may seem to be necessary against the persistent efforts that are being made to question the usefulness and merits of their organization. Officers were elected, the necessary committee appointed, and detailed arrangements made to protect to the utmost extent the interests of all members.

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The Golden Grail has now 11,000 members, and is adding about a thousand a month.

The supreme lodge of the Knights and Ladies of Protection issued 153 benefit certificates last week.

A lodge of the Order of the Annual Friend will be instituted here next week. This is another one year Order.

C. C. Fuller of Worcester will make the paraphernalia for Apollo lodge, I. O. O. F., which will cost about $1200 and will be one of the finest in this section.

An assembly of the Non-Secret Endowment Order was instituted at Gardner Tuesday evening. The Golden Lion also raised his roar in that town this week.

Several lodges in this city have just discovered that they need a banner or some other lodge property, and are beginning to wonder if they had not better buy TOWN TALK and cut out the coupons for their lodge.

John F. Bruce of this city is booming the Non-Secret Endowment Order. He has recently organized an assembly at Westerly, R. I., with 100 members. Clinton has over 200 members, Worcester nearly 600, Leominster 140 and Westminster, small as it is, has 33 members.

The Progressive Benefit Order is now doing business in 15 states and has a membership of 22,000. Mt. Rollstone Lodge was organized here two weeks ago, with F. D. LeSure, president; W. E. Young, secretary; A. A. Train, treasurer. This lodge pays $100 in one year.

The Order of Unity is 18 months old and has paid sick benefits amounting to $14,000. The Order introduces several new features with the opening of the new year, tending to the more efficient performance of initiatory work and the social features of the regular meetings of subordinate lodges.

The New England Order of Protection has initiated since its organization in November, 1887, 12,018 members; amount paid to beneficiaries of deceased members, $169,000; subordinate lodges instituted, 171. Grand lodges have been instituted in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, Rhode Island and Vermont.

At Chicago recently 132 Knights Templar each contributed a piece of his cuticle to save a brother's life, and in the course of the next few weeks probably some hare-brained minister will get up and denounce Freemasonry. If he does, just examine his record, and you will probably find that he is one of those who would not pare his finger nail to save a poor devil in the gutter.

A lodge of the Order of the Golden Lion, to be known as Whalom Lodge, No. 4, was instituted, at Music hall, with 300 members. The following officers were elected and installed: Past president, B. L. Rich; president, I. O. Converse; vice-president, Mrs. L. M. Babbitt; secretary, J. W. Ogden; treasurer, R. C. Ross; chaplain, Mary E. Fletcher; marshal, T. A. Hannon; usher, Mary J. Wray; sentinel, H. D. Stone; trustees, C. A. Babbitt, A. A. Holt, E. Stebbins, Jr.

The following officers of Palestine Lodge, No. 39, Order of the World, were installed at the regular meeting Monday evening: President, N. C. Upham; vice-president, George O. Allen; secretary, J. N. Rice; treasurer, G. C. Des Rivieres; chaplain, George A. Chandler; marshal, H. L. Robbins; guard, W. E. Whitcomb; sentinel, J. A. O'Hara. Six new members were initiated. This order is growing steadily here, and is one of the ten largest lodges in the Order. They have just paid their first claims for sick benefits in this city. Two claims were sent in for one week each, and checks for the same were returned in less than 48 hours.

AMERICAN LEGION OF HONOR.

The supreme officers have deposited with the Massachusetts state treasurer the largest sum yet made by any fraternal society in this state. The sum was entirely in city and town four per cent. bonds, real estate mortgage and national bank stock, and amounted to $323,890.43, which was the cost of the bonds. There is also real estate in Boston valued at $21,000, one advance assessment held in national banks amounting to $105,000, and with other values, making up a total reserve of $490,060. This order is now at the head of the fraternities in this particular. The character of the securities is approved by leading financiers of Boston. The total death claims paid to November 17, were over $17,500,000.

On Thursday evening District Deputy Grand Commander Henry M. Collester of Gardner, assisted by Past Commander Richard Tucker acting as Grand Guide, installed the officers of Overlook Council No. 972, American Legion of Honor. The ceremonies were followed by an entertainment by home talent, which was much enjoyed by all present, the humorous readings by Orator Jones and Vice Commander Foster being enthusiastically received. A light collation of coffee and cake was served, and an hour of social intercourse closed the evening's enjoyment.

THE FIVE YEAR BENEFIT ORDER.

The last assessment call netted over $30,000. Over $7,000 has been paid in sick benefits during the past two weeks, making a total of over $100,000 since organization. The total reserve fund on New Year's day exceeded $236,000. The Order has now about 12,500 members. Since Nov. 1 $12,500 has been deposited with the state treasurer of Massachusetts, according to law, making about $105,000 now in the hands of the state, for the protection of members. The Boston *Herald* employees have formed a commandery composed entirely of attaches of that great daily, and it is one of the conspicuous branches of the F. Y. B. O.

KNIGHTS AND LADIES OF HONOR.

Supreme Protector Milburn writes that "up to Nov. 1, 1890, the Order had attained a membership of 68,512. At this rate we shall have over 80,000 at the September session. During my administration we have had an average gain of 7,000 a year." There are now fifteen grand jurisdictions, and five more are shortly to be instituted. Arkansas was the last state to form a grand lodge.

Roumania Lodge, Knights and Ladies of Honor, initiated three members at the last meeting. The membership is now nearly 100.

The city has voted to grant licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and according to law 22 licenses may be issued, but Mayor Graves recommends that only six be granted when the time for issuing them arrives. This, of course, is exclusive of licenses to be granted to druggists. Thinking that the views of a few disinterested business men might be interesting, I made a tour among them this week in order to get their opinions on the matter. The first man I addressed is a staunch Prohibitionist, and I addressed him as follows: "Mr. Z., seeing that the city has decided to grant licenses for the sale of liquor, how many do you deem it most advisable to grant?" "None," he replied, "I would no more legalize the saloon than I would a house of prostitution. It is an evil, a cancer, a sore, an infamy, a pit which is always open for our boys and girls to walk into, and no father or mother can afford to look upon it without fear and shame. Suppose there was an open pit on Main street, nothing around it to prevent the children or grown people from walking into it, what would you do? Would you give a man a permit for a sum of money to entice people by various devices to walk into it, or would you fill it up and remove the danger? In my opinion it is just the same thing under another name, and no act of mine shall ever sanction such an infamy. Probably before the year is out there will be all the licenses granted that the law allows, but I would not give my sanction to a single one."

I next called upon a life-long Temperance party man, who expressed himself substantially as follows: "Personally I do not favor granting any, but the majority calls for licenses and there will be some granted. I should like to see Mayor Graves' recommendation adopted and given a fair and impartial trial. I would, if I could, do as he says, grant six, enforce the law, both in letter and spirit, and try it for one year. We have been told that the license law properly enforced will be very effective prohibition, but I don't think so. It all rests with the people. Until there is an end to the manufacture there will be no end to the consumption. For the present, however, I would like to see only six licenses granted and the law as it now stands enforced."

My next visit was to the office of a prominent manufacturer who expressed himself something to this effect: "If prohibition could be properly carried out I should be in favor of it, but I do not believe it can be hoped for in this country at present. Under these circumstances I think it is best to license the traffic. Personally, I scarcely ever touch liquor, so it would be no hardship to me if all the places were closed. I am in favor of granting the full number of licenses, of protecting the license in every reasonable way, of charging the highest fee allowed and of insisting that he comply with all the conditions of his licensee and the law. Further than that, I believe that every liquor dealer ought to be compelled to sell a genuine article and that he should be frequently visited by an inspector to see that his goods are all right. If he advertises whiskey and sells fusel oil he should be prosecuted the same as a grocer who sells oleomargarine for fresh butter. I would have no screens to his windows, but would compel him to carry on his business as openly as the man who runs the soda fountain. I am not one of those who believes in driving the business into the woods, but I believe in conducting it under the eyes of the people and the authorities."

My subjects are all well-known and highly respected citizens who withold their names only on account of business reasons. It is perhaps as well that the only signature to this article is that of

PAUL PRY.

HAVE YOU SEEN THOSE

HAIR BRUSHES

IN OUR WINDOW?

They are a genuine imported Dupont brush, solid olive wood, seven rows of bristles, wire drawn and cemented.

We offer them at only

50 CTS. EACH.

T. S. MALOON & CO.,

THE DRUGGISTS

174 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

Nichols & Frost.

CONTINUED SALE

—OF—

MARK-DOWNS

—IN—

EVERY

DEPARTMENT

UNTIL

FEB. 1ST,

When we take our annual inventory.

NEW GOODS ADDED DAILY.

Nichols & Frost.

THE

Seventh Annual Party

OF THE

Wednesday Club,

—OF—

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH,

AT CITY HALL,

Wednesday Evening, Feb. 4th.

Concert at 8 o'clock by

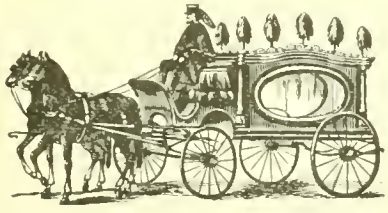
The Clef Quartette of Boston.

Dancing from Nine till One.

SUPPER at 6 o'clock and during the evening.

Admission, ... 50 cents.

Badges for Dancing, 50 cents extra for gentlemen.



H. A. LeSure. F. D. LeSure.

LeSURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 Day St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

USE

DERMILAVE!

For chapped hands, lips and face, is neither sticky nor greasy, dries instantly, and is elegantly perfumed.

NO LADY'S TOILET

COMPLETE WITHOUT IT.

Prepared only by

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

Leominster Breezes.

THEY SAY

That bowling is becoming the popular thing.

That Miss "Erva" Ames is quite popular with the boys.

That Franklin Hose Company gave a most enjoyable ball and scored another success.

That twins are all the rage at the present time. That they are all right but very expensive.

That L. D. Brown is making arrangements for the greatest masque ball ever held in town.

That the town sleigh ride was a blooming success and every one enjoyed it. The affair reflects much credit on the managers.

That the Women's Relief Corps are good entertainers and know how to make every one enjoy themselves. Their installation was a most enjoyable affair.

That some of the neatest card parties are being given this season ever known in town, and that there is considerable rivalry as to who shall give the nicest.

That we must have the Australian system before the April election of town officers, and if the selectmen refuse to call a special meeting there is another way in which it can be called.

That the Citizens' Club has at last woke up, and it really looks as if we should have some lively discussions before the winter is past. We advise every one to join, but by all means go to the meetings even if you do not feel disposed to join. You will be benefited and your presence will encourage others.

That a good, old-fashioned, old folks' ball is talked of, and without doubt will be one of the events of the near future, as there seems to be considerable interest manifested. That it is something we have not had for years, and that those who like plain dances should be given a chance and should appreciate the effort that is being made to do so.

That drunkenness on our streets Sundays seems to be on the increase. No less than four different parties are reported as having been seen last Sunday on Main street in a beastly state of intoxication. It will be necessary to make an example of a few of this class of people before the nuisance will be stopped.

That the sidewalks are poorly kept, or rather not kept at all. Four falls at the corner of School and Merriam streets, all in the same spot, are reported this week, and it is simply good luck that has saved the town a large bill for damages.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER.

BROWNELL & MASON,

PLUMBING AND HEATING,

158 MAIN ST.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

NOW IS THE TIME

—TO HAVE—

TRIMMING

AND

PRUNING

DONE.

ORDER SLATE AT STORES OF

H. A. HATCH, 204 Main St.

H. F. ROCKWELL, 401 Main St.

G. H. CHASE,

8 HAWES ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

EUGENE F. STONE,

CARRIAGE PAINTER,

BETWEEN

BROOK AND VINE STS.

Entrance on Vine St.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.
THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE to St. Albans, St. Johns, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.

ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS

to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m., 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m., 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

It is Town Talk about

KNIGHT'S OYSTERS.

They are fine. Remember we have two teams and will deliver all orders promptly. Don't forget those Daisy Reels for $1.25 per dozen. We also have plenty of No. 1 SHINERS left at

DAY STREET

FISH AND OYSTER MARKET.

H. A. KNIGHT.

Sunday Services.

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a. m., German service with sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor, theme, Looking at the Unseen 12 m., Bible School; 4, Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, service of worship with sermon. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "The Deceitfulness of Sin;" Sunday School at 12m.; 5.45 p.m., Y. P. S. C. E. meeting; evening service of praise and prayer at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer and sermon at 10.30, a. m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p.m.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner, pastor, residence 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by Rev. C. F. Rice of Leominster; Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's Epworth meeting at 6 p. m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "The Glory of a Young Man;" Sunday School at 12 m.; young people's service at 6 p.m.; at 7 p.m. sermon in the course upon Liberal Christianity by Rev. Edward B. Paine of Leominster, subject, "Jesus, the Way, the Truth, the Life." All are welcome.

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, topic, "Trustees of the Gospel," Sunday School 12 m.; People's service, sermon by the pastor, 7 p. m. An enlarged chorus will assist in the service of song at the evening service.

"World Wide" Salvation Army, barracks at 190½ Main street, rear entrance on Crescent street. Services at 11 a. m., 3 and 8 p. m., Capt. Caldwell, leader. All cordially invited.

Railroad Men's meeting at Red Men's hall, 239½ Main street, at 5 p. m.

Y. M. C. A. Bible training class in Association rooms, from 9.15 to 10.15 a. m. Meeting for men at 4 p. m.

East Street Mission Sunday School will meet at 3 p. m. All are welcome

The Finn Temperance Union will hold a gospel temperance meeting at W. C. T. U. rooms, Wixon's block, at 4. p. m

M. E. Church, West Fitchburg, Rev. Edward Higgins, pastor. At 10.30 a. m., preaching service; 12 m., Sunday School; 6 p. m., young people's meeting; 6.30, praise and prayer service.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday School at 12 m.

The New Church (Swedenborgian) services will be held in Knights of Honor hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.45 a. m.

BORN.

MCCALLIFF—Jan. 12, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs John McCauliff

MARRIED.

CULLEY—WHIPPLE—Jan 15, by Rev F. O. Hall, Frank C. Culley and Ida C. Whipple

SAVAGE—ADAMS—Jan 21, by Rev. F. O Hall, at 81 Pleasant street, Walter A Savage of North Adams and Florence M Adams of New Ipswich

DIED.

MARCHAND—Jan 16, Albert, son of Jacob and Philomene Marchand, 2 yrs., 4 mos.

GILBERT—Jan 18, George, son of Phillip and Emma Gilbert, 1 mo., 16 days.

BENNETT—Jan. 19, Thomas Bennett, 38 yrs., 3 mos., 11 days

STEARNS—Jan 20, William J Stearns 36 yrs., 10 mos., 13 days.

HARTWELL—At West Fitchburg Jan 21, Benjamin Hartwell, 61 yrs., 3 mos., 3 days.

The Banner! The Banner! The Banner!

TOWN TALK'S

Great Banner Contest.

We want to interest every Society in the city in TOWN TALK and we take the following method of doing it. Many lodges and societies have not a good, suitable banner or flag for use in the lodge, to use on special occasions or in out-door parades. We therefore offer a

Seventy-five Dollar Banner

made by the Boston Regalia Company. This company is one of the best makers of this class of goods in New England, and will make a banner or flag well worth the money. The contest is open to

Every Society or Order

in this city or Leominster and the banner will be awarded to the Lodge, Order or Society receiving the most votes. In case the Lodge, Order or Society receiving the most votes prefers to have a United States flag, the company will specially prepare one of the same value. Every society, no matter of what organization, is invited to compete for this

BEAUTIFUL BANNER

The coupon will always be found on the last page of the paper. The contest opens to-day and will close Saturday, May 30. The vote will be given every Saturday as it stood at noon the day previous. Votes will be received up to noon, June 3, and the result will be declared Saturday, June 9, 1891. The winning Lodge, Order or Society will have the privilege of giving instructions for the making of the banner, and we guarantee that it will be just as represented.

SAVE YOUR COUPONS FOR

THE BANNER.

OPERA HOUSE.

TO-NIGHT.

KINDERGARDEN.

MONDAY, JAN. 26.

Rip Van Winkle.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29.

Hill's World of Novelties.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31.

HENRY E. DIXEY.

SAY! LOOK AT

Public Market No. 2,

374 MAIN ST,

L. A. Cousins, Prop.

AND TRY THAT BUTTER.

COUPON.

This Certifies that I am a member of the ..... Class of the Fitchburg High School, and that the article herewith is written by me, and is my own production, unaided.

Name,

Address,

Date Submitted,

COMMUNICATION.

EDITOR TOWN TALK:—

I see in the columns of your stirring journal the reflections of another raven to your raven in regard to low wages paid by some of our industries here. In solving that question he says the reasons are unrestricted immigration of poor people from foreign countries, such as Finns, Swedes and French Canadians. Let me say here for the French Canadians, that this raven is very erroneous in his reflections; that our French people do not work for low wages; on the contrary, they are skillful hands in the mills and machine shops, and command good wages, which are paid to them. They are good workmen and are recognized as such by their employers. Their mode of living is expensive. The comforts of home are found with the French families; luxuries are plenty on their tables, and if they had low wages they could not afford to dress as they do. The saloons do not get their money. Fitchburg has 3,500 French people, which is almost one-sixth of the city's population, and if this raven visits the police and poor department record he will find out that the number of French figuring on the list is comparatively small. Our French people are represented in all branches of trades and are prosperous. They are becoming citizens and are loyal to this grand republic, which is a sense of satisfaction to those who like to see them prosper, and is an honor to themselves. Dear Paven, tell your raven not to keep company with that other raven, for he does not know whereof he speaks; besides, he is utterly false.

Yours, etc.,

EUGENE FOREST.

We print Mr. Forest's letter with pleasure, but think he is inclined to make a mistake about the article. The same remark will apply to the poor people coming from England, Ireland, Scotland, Germany and many other countries. They are all used to different modes of living and lower rates of wages. It must naturally take them some time to acquire American ways and ideas, and it would seem that people who cannot speak the language must be at a little greater disadvantage than those who can. If the French people know the value of labor and intend to ask for the full value and keep the wages of their branch of employment up to the American standard, good for the French Canadians, say we.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

2000 POUNDS

BEST : NEW : DATES

4 lbs. for 25 cents.

2000 POUNDS

NEW FANCY FIGS

Only 15c. per pound.

5000 QUARTS

Fresh Baked Peanuts

5 cents per quart.

—AT—

MACY'S.

J. H. MACK & CO.,

Plumbers and * *

* * Steam Fitters.

FINE SANITARY PLUMBING

A SPECIALTY.

◁ LABOR PERFORMED BY SKILLED WORKMEN. ▷

171 MAIN ST.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS.

TONIGHT.

Kindergarden at the opera house.

MONDAY.

Rip Van Winkle at the opera house.

Y. M. C. A. concert at city hall. Crowd the house.

WEDNESDAY.

Ladies' Union Aid Society sale, concert and dance at city hall.

Old Folks' basket party at Music hall.

THURSDAY.

Hill's World of Novelties at the opera house.

FRIDAY.

Burns' anniversary at city hall. Great Scotch gathering.

Merchants' Association annual dinner at G. A. R. hall.

SATURDAY.

Dixey in "The Seven Ages" at the opera house.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.

TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.

5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,

TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.

37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS.

It will do you no harm to read our advertisements, possibly it may do you no good. If we should say we had the "Largest Assortment," "Lowest Prices," etc., etc., you might say, "That is an old chestnut, we won't believe it."

But when we tell you that we sell the best Flour and Butter and the best groceries of all kinds at Low Prices, and that we sell a regular 60c. Tea for 45 cents per lb., and you don't believe it, why then all we ask is for you to come and see us.

Try some of our nice Tea and Coffee, Flour and Butter. We are satisfied that one trial will convince you that what we say is true.

O. L. P. G., JOSLIN.

THE GRAND CLEARANCE SALE

Will Continue for One Week Longer.

Household Goods, Furniture, Carpets, Stoves, &c., &c.

CARPETS. CARPETS.

Lowell Extra Supers, 57½ cts. per Yard
A Good All Wool for 50 cts. per Yard
Dupdee Carpet for 22½ cts. per Yard.
Hemp Carpet for 10 cts. per Yard.

BEST CARPET SWEEPER MADE, . . $2.25

PARLOR SUITS.

6 Pieces in Plush for	$25.00

CHAMBER SETS.

$100 Sets for	$75.00
$90 Sets for	70.00
$80 Sets for	58.00
$75 Sets for	52.50

LOUNGES.

$15 Lounges for	$10
$12 Lounges for	9
$10 Lounges for	7

PARLOR STOVES.

$28 Stoves for	$22.50
$25 Stoves for	20.00
$22 Stoves for	18.00
$18 Stoves for	15.00
$14 Stoves for	10.00

RANGES.

We shall sell all our Ranges except Acorn and Herald B, at 15 per cent discount

DINNER SETS.

We shall sell all our Dinner Sets at very low prices

LAMPS.

We shall close out all our Lamps at 33 per cent below the usual price. We must close these out. Some old patterns will sell at 25 cts. on the dollar.

Hall Lamps, Worth $2.50.	$1.17,
Hanging Lamps, Worth $5.00.	$2.00,

SIDEBOARDS AND PILLAR EXTENSION TABLES.

$50 Sideboards for	$35.00
$40 Sideboards for	30.00
$30 Sideboards for	22.50
$25 Sideboards for	19.00
$25 Tables for	20.00
$20 Tables for	16.00
$18 Tables for	14.50

MISCELLANEOUS.

Wash Tubs, per pair,	95 cts.
Flat Irons, per lb.,	3 cts.
Clothes Lines, (cotton)	15 cts.
Clothes Pins, per doz.,	1 ct.
Clothes Wringers,	$1.75
Wash Benches,	67 cts.

Wardrobes, Book Cases, Desks, Chiffoniers, etc. Draperies, Upholstery Goods.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ANY RAILROAD STATION IN NEW ENGLAND

FERDINAND & AUSTIN, 219 & 221 MAIN ST,. FICTHBURG.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.\
NUMBER 5.

FITCHBURG, MASS., JANUARY 31, 1891.

$2.00 PER YEAR\
5 CENTS A COPY

DO YOU KNOW THAT

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

THE POPULAR

HOUSE FURNISHERS

ARE SELLING

CARPETS,\
FURNITURE,\
BEDS,\
BEDDING,\
PARLOR STOVES,\
AND RANGES,

And everything else wanted to furnish your house complete from top to bottom at prices that would ruin them if they should continue to do so longer than the month of January.

Well, the fact is just this, we have looked over our stock and find many articles which we cannot duplicate. A lot of short pieces of Carpeting, enough for one or two carpets, and to close them out will sell for much less than they will cost two months from now.

We do not confine this to cash trade, but will give our special system of credit as usual.

Come and see what a little money will do at

222 MAIN ST.\
OPERA HOUSE BLOCK,\
FITCHBURG, MASS.

MR. FRED W. BRAZIER.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

The genial president of the Common Council is a native of Charlestown, Mass., and first saw the light of day on November 15, 1852. In his early years he attended the public schools of that town and finally severed his connection with the grammar school when only 10 years of age. Since that time he fought life's battle for himself. He served his apprenticeship to the carpenter's craft with Amos Brown, in his native place. For the last 15 years he has been in the employ of the Fitchburg Railroad company, and from a minor place has worked himself up by hard work, faithful and efficient service to the important position of general foreman at the company's extensive plant at East Fitchburg. Mr. Brazier is now serving the city in the Common Council a second time, his first connection therewith being in 1888. This year by a very flattering vote he was elected chairman without any effort on his own part, but because the members of that body had entire confidence in his integrity and ability. He is a Mason, an Odd Fellow and a Red Man, and has been through all the chairs in Bunker Hill Lodge, I.O.O. F., of Charlestown. Mr. Brazier is president of the Railroad Men's Relief Association of this city, and is esteemed by railroad men and others all over the city for his many gentlemanly qualities.

Whispers and Rumors.

"Old Hutch," otherwise Hutchinson, the great Chicago speculator, has retired from speculation. Twenty years ago he was said to be worth $20,000,000, which has dwindled now to $1,000,000. It was to save what there is left that his family insisted on his retirement. Hutch has got enough left to see him through the winter.

There is perhaps more truth than poetry in the following from the Providence *Critic:* "A sick man residing in Cumberland sent for the nearest spiritual adviser. It so happened that the minister was a new fledgling just emerging from the divinity school. He was dudish in the extreme. His coat was cut in true clerical style, and his face bore the expression of affected literary culture. Going to the poor man's house he sat on the edge of a chair, toying with his hat and stroking his moustache. Said he to the dying man after a long spell of silence painful to all: 'What induced you to send for me?' 'You will have to speak louder,' faintly replied the sufferer, 'I'm dull of hearing.' 'What induced you to send for me?' 'No use, can't hear. What does he say, Mary?' turning to his wife. And then in a loud, shrill and stentorian voice the woman replied: 'He says, what in the deuce did you send for him for.'"

A few evenings ago, when going home, a newspaper fiend saw a man very much under the influence of liquor leaning against an electric light pole. The newspaper man, with the usual sweet way of worming out information, halted and said: "Hallo, old man, license or prohibition?" "Did (hic) yer speak to m (hic)?" "Yes, are you a license man or a prohibitionist?" "None o' yer d—(hic)—nd business." "A little strong for three per cent., wasn't it?" queried the scribe. "You go 'long and mind yer own bizness, yer darned preacher. Yer want ter advise (hic) me to (hic) stick to water, an' I'm hanged if I do (hic). I—" Just then he slipped a little to one side and unwillingly sat down in a quantity of ice water, which, judging from his voluble remarks tended to make him hot instead of cold. With a parting injunction to look out for the minions of the law, the scribe went on his way home.

The management of "Ship Ahoy" now running at the Park Theatre have decided upon a novel idea of filling their wants. They experienced serious difficulty in obtaining verses to fit the topical song "Did it ever occur to you?" which is sung nightly be Frank P. Blair as Col. Maple son Mulberry. In order to obtain them they have decided to offer a prize of $25 for the best verse upon some local subject, which shall be submitted to them on or before February 5th. The metre of the verses was published in the Boston papers and copies may be obtained by applying at the box office of the Park Theatre. Three prominent newspaper men will be selected to judge of the excellence of the offerings and by them the prize will be awarded. All the offerings should be addressed to Chas. A. Metcalf, Park Theatre. The idea of the management is that the best verse that is received each day shall be sung by Mr. Blair at that evening's performance. This will no doubt be one of the many items that goes to make the success of "Ship Ahoy."

New Yorkers have a more valid excuse for not attending church than have residents in other cities. The inspectors of the Board of Fire Underwriters report 66 church edifices as having unsafe heating apparatus. In most cities the men don't fish around much for excuses, they simply stop away from church and let it go at that.

Mark Twain recently heard a sermon through the telephone, the minister being 450 miles away. The time is not far distant, probably, when, on stormy or hot Sundays the minister can sit in his study, surrounded by "all the comforts of home," and preach to his parishioners in their several homes. In such a case, however, there may be some trouble about passing the contribution box. Mr. Bowker, our telephone manager hopes, later, to so far perfect the instruments that funerals, marriages and christenings may be attended in the same way. In the latter case he will fit an attachment which will sprinkle the baby's face and afterwards act as a receptacle for the presents.

A handsome young married woman who was suffering from sore gums a few days since asked the man who attends her furnace to go to the drug store and get her some of Dr. Seaburg's gum wash. He asked how much he should get and she said three or five ounces, it was not material which. Imagine her surprise when she received a few hours later three ounces of gum drops. The messenger had remembered only that he had been sent for something with a "gum" in it.

FAMILY WASHINGS
50 CTS. A BASKETFUL,
—AT THE—
CITY ✣ STEAM ✣ LAUNDRY,
229 MAIN STREET.

NOW IS THE TIME
TO BUY FURS.

We have received from a manufacturer in New York, a large consignment of LADIES' FURS consisting of CAPES, COLLARS and MUFFS, WITH ORDERS TO SELL.

These goods are all new and fresh, and many of them will be sold for half the price the same kind were before the Holidays. Every article is warranted as represented, and can be returned if not perfectly satisfactory.

Men's Fur Collars and Cuffs ready made or made to order, at very low prices.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,
Wholesale and Retail Clothiers,
Hatters, and Furriers.

BEST YET!

500 Pounds
Chocolates,
17 CTS. PER LB.
FOR SATURDAY ONLY.
E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

NEW ARRIVAL OF
Dates,
4 pounds for 25 cents.

NEW ARRIVAL OF
Best Peanuts,
5 cents per quart.

Walnuts,
5 cents per quart.
6 quarts for 25 cents.

NEW ARRIVAL OF
Foreign Potatoes.
—AT—
MACY'S.

Jottings by the Way.

Walter Conant has sold his fish market, at 6½ Main street to John Curley.

Two or three more "bond" schemes are looking for patrons in this city.

Under the head of Dining Rooms etc. will be found the best dining rooms in the city.

A special train will run to Leominster tonight, after the performance at the opera house.

Mr. Macy advertises large quantities of dates, walnuts, peanuts and foreign potatoes for sale tonight cheap.

A box has been placed in front of this office for the reception of votes for the banner. Help some worthy organization to get it, or an exceptionally fine U. S. flag.

Dr. F. A. Damon, dentist, and Alphonso Kelly started today for a month's trip to Jamaica and Cuba. Ed. Macy expected to accompany them, but on account of business is not able to get away.

It is said that salt is very freely used on the sidewalk in front of city hall, and some of the pedestrians grumble at it. Scarcely above a whisper something is said about salt and the horse car tracks, friend Sargent.

Last Sunday's letter in the Boston *Herald* makes reference to the lights in the public library. It is quite true the lights need overhauling and the trustees will confer a favor on the public by making a change.

The controversy over the policemen's books which were given up to ex-mayor Hayden and which are said to be in a back cupboard in the mayor's office, has been commented upon by police authorites in all parts of the state.

E. M. Read is making quite a large demand for his new specially prepared candies, ice creams and frozen puddings. They certainly are very fine, judging by the sweet expression a small box of candies made on the faces of our lady compositors.

Tafley Mauch will give one of his matchless solos at the Wednesday Club party, Wednesday evening next. Candy receipt books with handsome decorated corners will be on sale. E. M. Read will furnish the frozen puddding and there will also be an abundance of butterflys there. For "sweet charity's sake" go to city hall next Wednesday evening.

Court City of Fitchburg, No. 769, A. O. F. of A., are making preparations for their third annual ball, which is to be given at city hall Easter Monday evening, March 30. Last year's ball was very successful, both socially and financially, and the committee promise this year to eclipse last year's effort. The committee having the matter in charge is made up as follows: J. R. Smith, T. J. Lambert, J. E. McConnell, Dr. H. H. Lyons, J. P. Kane, M. F. Dunn, C. Foley, P. J. Landers, John F. Ranke, D. F. Sullivan and P. H. Dyer. The Foresters have already established a reputation.

The contest for the gold watch closes with this issue. No essays will be accepted after Monday. If possible the award will be made Saturday next, but if the judges are unable to examine all the contributions before next Saturday the award will be made the week following.

The Merchants Association supper was not a thing of the past when we went to press, but was so far advanced as to be a success. Mr. H. A. Goodrich read a poem which we should have been glad to print had it been finished in time for use. About 140 tickets were sold and at the time of writing the affair promises to be the best the Association have ever given. The concert part was a new feature and was well received.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, Orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box will also be provided in front of our office, in future, for the votes.

The following is the Boston Regalia Company's description of the $75 banner to be awarded to the fortunate lodge: Banner 45 inches long by 36 inches wide, made of the best quality of banner silk (double silk and interlined) and handsomely painted, trimmed with gold bullion fringe, lace and cord and tassels, walnut or ash jointed staff, mounted with gilt metal eagle, spear or some other device, cross pole with gilt ends, black patent leather belt, complete, value $75.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.
TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.
5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,
TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.
37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Best grade of Flour at lowest prices.
Canned goods very low.
One can very best California Apricots or Cherries, one can of Peaches, two cans of Tomatoes and two cans of Corn or Peas, state Maine packing, for

ONE DOLLAR.

A good item of Peas for 10c. Old Pop Corn, Boxes of choice Boneless Fish, not a bone in it. Nice Butter and Fresh Eggs. New Orleans Molasses.

PERLEY HOLMES.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.
W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r
Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

COUPON.

This Certifies that I am a member of the Class of the Fitchburg High School, and that the article herewith is written by me, and is my own production, unaided.

Name. *Address,*

Date Submitted,..

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

The New York *Herald* tells, as follows, where the fun does not come in:

Tobogganing down on a slippery slide
Is the
blissfulest
kind of bliss;
But it isn't so funny when you strike a stone
And land
on
your
dach
ekil
!sihi

In speaking of a Board of Trade, Worcester *Light* says: "Of course we prefer steady and substantial growth, but a determination to make everything in Worcester the best to be found anywhere is a desirable quality in every citizen's heart. That city north of us, Fitchburg, allows no opportunity to forward her interests to slip, and she does advance them. Public spirit is rampant. She sets forth her advantages as a place of business and she gets the business." The last part of your article will be news to some of our people, Brother Roe, but it is coming to that soon. Rampant is good; we like that.

Ashworth Brothers of Manchester, England, large manufacturers of cotton machinery, will erect in the spring a branch of their establishment on seven acres of land which they have bought near the Globe yarn mills in Fall River. Many of their carding machines are in use in that city, and are regarded as the best manufactured abroad.

Sam Jones has been trying to convert the Canadians, but, according to all reports, the Canadians have wished many times that the extradition treaty with the United States covered evangelists.

One of our exchanges says that the thousands bequeathed by the will of Emma Abbott serve by contrast to recall the struggles of her early career, when she travelled about the country giving concerts in hotel parlors, country schoolhouses and churches, where she and her guitar were the only attractions. Repeatedly she had to raise money on her guitar, and at one time she was obliged to leave her concert dress in pawn. On one memorable occasion she found all her earthly possessions reduced to a five-cent coin, which, by the way, she always afterwards kept as a memento. She studied hard all the time, and was animated by a firm faith that she would succeed. How her faith was rewarded the generous provisions of her will abundantly show.

The McKinley bill doesn't seem to raise prices "worth a cent," as the boys say. Our stoorkeepers, if they are to be believed, are selling goods for about one-half the price asked for the same articles one year ago. Look over the advertisements and then call on any store represented in these columns and you will find that is true in many cases and in only a few cases is there any increase of prices that is felt.

One of our exchanges says: "Talk about brave men. There is one in Philadelphia who has just married a woman who has already buried four husbands; and she is only twenty-four years old. He must want to die young." Yes, or he may be laboring under the impression that "those whom the gods love die young." His wife is something like the English bishop who had buried three wives and on taking the fourth remarked:

"If I survive
I'll make them five."

Whether President Harrison reappoints Postmaster Currier or not, he cannot, if he sees his big petition bearing the names of nearly all the leading Republicans in this city, avoid coming to the conclusion that Mr. Currier has been a good postmaster and that he has a host of friends.

HAVE YOU SEEN THOSE

HAIR BRUSHES

IN OUR WINDOW?

They are a genuine imported Dupont brush, solid olive wood, seven rows of bristles, wire drawn and cemented.

We offer them at only

50 CTS. EACH.

T. S. MALOON & CO.,

THE DRUGGISTS

174 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

THE

Seventh Annual Party

OF THE

Wednesday Club,

—OF—

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH,

AT CITY HALL,

Wednesday Evening, Feb. 4th.

Concert at 8 o'clock by

The Clef Quartette of Boston.

Dancing fron Nine till One.

SUPPER at 6 o'clock and during the evening.

Admission, ... 50 cents.

Badges for Dancing, 50 cents extra for gentlemen.

H. A. LESURE. F. D. LESURE.

LESURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 DAY ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

NOW IS THE TIME

—TO HAVE—

TRIMMING

AND

PRUNING

DONE.

ORDER SLATE AT STORES OF

H. A. HATCH, 204 Main St

H. F. ROCKWELL, 401 Main St.

G. H. CHASE,

8 HAWES ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

SACHET POWDERS.

TRY OUR NEW ODORS,

Cherry Blossom and Arbutus.

EXQUISITE AND LASTING.

H. A. ESTABROOK & CO.,

APOTHECARIES,

CORNER MAIN AND PRICHARD STREETS

D. G. HORTON,

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

BREAD, CAKE

—AND—

PASTRY.

CRACKERS OF ALL KINDS.

306 Main St., - Fitchburg.

COAL!

LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7.00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5.50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS,

Office, 11 Day Street.

TELEPHONE 218-2.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

Many of our readers will remember Mr. Gott who formerly kept Gott's hotel. Some 20 years ago he ran a picture gallery in Dr. Thos. Palmer's house just above the post office. One winter while he was there located there was a tremendous storm and for several days everybody was snowed in. The country places were snowed in for two or three weeks, the roads being actually impassable. About three weeks after the storm humanity in the vicinity of Westminster and Ashburnham began to assert itself and make tracks for the city. Among the first parties to make for this city was a funeral procession from a little farm located on a lonely road near Ashburnham. The corpse was that of a boy 17 years old who died during the snow storm. The body was kept nearly three weeks before an attempt was made to bring it to the Catholic cemetery here. After a hard struggle the funeral party reached the city and passing Dr. Palmer's house saw Mr. Gott taking a picture. The procession was stopped and Mr. Gott was asked by a woman if he could take a picture of her dead son. He said he could. The coffin was taken from the hearse, reared on an end against a tree in front of the house and the lid removed. Mr. Gott was preparing to take the picture when a voice from above cried out "Gott, what the devil are you doing?" "Taking a picture," he replied. "Well, take the blank thing round to the back of the house then," came in response, "You'll scare the stuffing out of the women folks." Two men took hold of the coffin to carry it around as directed and produced the effect the speaker wished to avoid. Mrs. Palmer saw the coffin coming around to the back of the house and nearly fainted with fright thinking they were bringing her son "Joe" home dead. The coffin was reared against the house and a picture was taken. The body had slipped down in the coffin and the picture, which Mr. Gott kept for many years and a copy of which is still in existence, was called for later by the mother of the deceased, who inquired if her picture could not be put on the same card.

Shakespeare says, "What's in a name," and a well-known caterer says Roman punch will taste just as good by any other name. In support of this theory he tells the following true story: He was engaged to make a fine spread for a ladies' gathering in a town near Boston. At the last moment it was found that the gathering would be so large that a large quantity of ice cream would be needed, and this delicacy he was short of at this particular time, but he had a large quantity of frozen Roman punch on hand, and this he decided to substitute. This was done and the ladies smacked their lips, pronounced it simply a congealed delight, and there were so many repeated calls for more that the caterer began to fear his patrons would go home staggering under a gigantic jag of liquified delight. A short time after this another delegation of ladies waited upon him to engage him to do some more catering, and in closing the bargain they stipulated that he must have an abundance of that elegant ice cream of his like that he supplied to the ladies at——. Not calling to mind the event the ladies referred to, he made more inquiries and found that the ice cream referred to was the Roman punch he had served in place of ice cream, and the gathering that he served it to was a big meeting of the *Woman's Christian Temperance Union*. No bill of fare was used, and the ladies had delightedly and unconsciously swallowed it under the impression that it was ice cream. Unfortunate but true, ladies.

FOR LUMBER

Call at yard of

C. A. PRIEST LUMBER

COMPANY,

45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.

If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

GOOD NEWS

Ranges & Parlor Stoves.

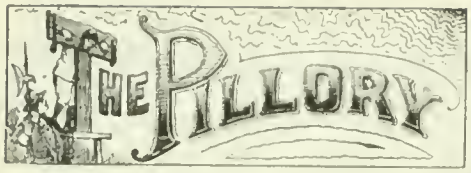
FURNITURE,

ALL KINDS.

CASH OR EASY TERMS.

GATELY & CO.

50 DAY STREET



OUR AGRICULTURAL SHOW.

Last year there was some talk of making an effort to so improve our agricultural show that it would be something of a rival to that of Brockton. Perhaps a little in this direction was done last year, but the results were not apparent to the general public from the fact that the committee in charge strained every nerve to give the public that which was expected the year before, but which was, through a combination of circumstances, denied them. Without having a desire to preach or to be thought a little too previous or self-important, it seems to us that the Worcester North Society suffers from the weakness of procrastination. Everything is put off until a late hour, and then a few men have to hustle like sin to make all the necessary arrangements to carry out whatever plans are adopted. So long as such a course is followed no great improvement can be made. Another great drawback to making our fair one of the noted ones of the state is the very conservative amounts offered in prizes and premiums. Perhaps the "conservative" amount in the treasury not only justifies but compels this course. We are inclined to think that by a careful management of the funds at disposal, placing the money for prizes in the directions which are most popular or most likely to awaken greatest enthusiasm, and investing as liberally as possible in that which comes nearest to the feelings of the great majority of visitors, will do more than if placed in small premiums and on a greater number of entries. We no not accuse the committee of incompetency or even of a want of discretion, but of endeavoring to do too much with too small an appropriation. The men who in previous years have arranged the fair have, to our own knowledge, worked hard and borne the brunt of the battle out of pure interest for the welfare of the society, and no complaint is made of want of energy after the work has commenced. If the society is anxious to make the Worcester North fair one of the first fairs in the state, more money must be put out in inducements to come here, and a change in the nature of the attractions offered must also be made to induce those living here to attend. In order to secure novelties for the fall show preparations must be made in good season, or it is more than likely that the novelties will be engaged by other corporations. Another disadvantage in our opinion is the desire to crowd too many attractions into the second day and too few into the first, thus depending too much upon the results of one day. Another thing that is a drag on the society is the want of interest among the farmers, except a few hard workers who work all the year round, thus leaving all the responsibility and expenses on those who live in this city and its suburbs. A still greater disadvantage is the lack of facilities at the park, and until the Park company and the Street Railway company do a little more and adopt a little more liberal policy, the society cannot work to best advantage.

Dining Rooms, Etc.

JOHN H. PRESCOTT,
PROPRIETOR OF
Hayward's * Temperance * Hotel,
337 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.
Meals served on the European Plan when desired.
First-Class Restaurant.

Hotel Westmoreland
25 TO 29 DAY STREET.
F. W. ALDRICH, - Proprietor.
Ladies' and Gents' Dining Rooms. Board by the day or week. Good rooms, polite attention and good service. Everything first-class.

Howarth's Restaurant
FOR : LADIES : AND : GENTLEMEN.
40 DAY STREET.
First-class service and reasonable rates. Board by the day or week.
JOHN HOWARTH, Propr.

Drury's * Dining * Rooms,
144 MAIN STREET.
BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.
For Ladies and Gentlemen.
First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.
G. E. HAYWARD, Propr.

SAY! LOOK AT
Public Market No. 2,
374 MAIN ST,
L. A. Cousins, Prop.,
AND TRY THAT BUTTER.

LIVERY, BOARDING
—AND—
SALE STABLE.

GUY WOODS, Proprietor,
ACADEMY ST., - REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.
First-class Horses and Carriages for hire. Orders promptly attended to. Accommodation for fifty horses. Best care and feed at all times.
GUY WOODS,
REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.

E. C. STOWE,
DEALER IN
LEAD, JAPANS,
OIL,
SHELLACS, PAINTS,
VARNISHES.
HOUSE PAINTING, HARD OIL FINISH, GRAINING, VARNISHING, ETC.
302 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MASS.

Just received a new lot of fleece lined and print wrappers that I shall sell very cheap.
Ladies' kitchen aprons, extra large size, 25 cents each. All kinds of children's aprons.
For the next 30 days I shall sell my ready-made suits very cheap, I have Casbmeres, Henrietta, Ladies' Cloth, Serge, Plaids, Satin, etc.
These can be found at
MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER'S
CITY HAIR STORE,
183 Main Street. Up Stairs.
OPPOSITE MACY'S.

W. F. LAWRENCE,
FINE :. JOB :. PRINTER,
11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.
WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

Town Tattle.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

Amateur electricians are said to occasionally "tap" fire alarm wires just for the fun of having a gong ring in the house or to strengthen their batteries. There is trouble ahead for the next amateur so caught, so look out young men.

There was probably never a season when there were so many amusements in this city. Leaving out the usual run of good, bad and indifferent dramatic entertainments at the opera house there has been a fine line of concerts. There have been several fairs and lectures and the list of special parties and private entertainments has already been long and there are several more to come before the season can be considered closed.

Manager Dunn has considerably improved the orchestra at the opera house of late and a Leominster artist is giving the scenery some needed touching up. If Manager Dunn will now go to work and ring up the curtain at 8 o'clock sharp and insist upon the performance commencing at that hour a great improvement will have been made. By the above and shortening the waits between acts the plays will be much more enjoyable.

We understand that there has been a little growling recently because all the snow was not quickly removed from the walks around the court house. We think the janitor did the best he could in addition to his other work, and just here a question arises. If the city looks after the walks around Monument park, city property, should not the city or county look after the walks around the court house? The court house is public property and is looked upon as a benefit to the city, why then not look after the walks around it and not expect a man to kill himself after every snow-storm. Be reasonable friends.

Changes and rumors of changes are in the air. E. E. Staples is going out of business and two or three different firms are reported as being after his store. One report is that a shoe firm wants it. Dame Rumor, whose tongue is always wagging, says Mr. Staples, until quite recently, contemplated making extensive changes in his store next fall, owing to the increase in his business, by taking T. S. Maloon & Co's. store and having one main entrance to both stores. It is understood that Mr. Staples is interested in a shirt firm up country and Mr. Blodgett's name, late proprietor of the Globe Clothing store, is also mentioned in connection with this firm but there appears to be no authority for the statement. Girard & Irish will soon occupy the store now occupied by F. C. Currier and C. E. Webber, jeweller, in addition to their present one. Mr. Webber will remove into the store now occupied by the Wachusett Tea Co. and B. W. Eddy on the opposite side of Main street; where the tea company will migrate to Rumor sayeth not, but Mr. Donohue it is said will re-enter the employ of the Pacific Tea Co. A false rumor has been started that Mr. Webber was to take the store now occupied by the Union Pacific Tea Co. F. C. Currier has not decided where he will remove to. It is common talk in Gardner that the Fitchburg Steam Engine company will *not* go there, mature reflections having convinced the company that it is for their interest to remain here. There are many persons here who never really believed that the company would go there. We are informed from reliable sources that the company has written to the Gardner Board of Trade to break the contract for one or two particular reasons, the principal one being the condition of Mr. Charles Fosdick's health. We have not the authority of the firm to state that they will remain here, but such is the case, however. We are glad the firm is not going. Board of Trade, take care the firm does not go to any other city.

City hall was filled to its utmost capacity Friday evening last on the occasion of the Washington Guards' grand concert and ball. Fully 600 persons were present, and at all times during the evening the dancing space was entirely occupied. The Russell orchestra gave a fine concert for one hour, and the elegant floral decorations of the stage served to heighten the effect of the music. The grand march was led by Capt. J. E. McConnell and sister, Miss Kate McConnell of North Adams. In this the guests of the occasion, officers of the company and a large portion of those present joined, numbering in all about 175 couples, and from this time until after 4 a. m. the dancing continued unabated, save for a slight intermission for supper. The company did ample justice to the bountiful repast spread before them by Landlord Judkins.

Those who attended the Jubilee concert at the C. C. church, Sunday evening, were fully repaid for listening to the touching melodies of these sweet singers. The company comes from Fisk University, Nashville, and has for its object the purpose of founding a Bible school in which to educate the young colored men of the South for Christian Ministry. They are accompanied by the Rev. C. W. Shelton who has for some years been before the public in connection with the negro and indian questions. Mr. Shelton spoke at some length upon the subject of the colored people at the South and finally introduced one of the singers to the audience that they might hear the story from a representative of the race itself. This gentleman interested the assembly for some time with scenes and incidents of Southern life ending in an appeal to the North for aid and sympathy in their undertaking. A collection was then taken and the result proved that the sympathies of the congregation had been enlisted in the cause of the singers.

Unfortunately the Ladies Union Aid Society did not receive the generous patronage, Wednesday evening, that the cause deserved.

An audience that seemed to crowd the house enjoyed the Y. M. C. A. concert in city hall Monday evening, and by repeated encores the program was nearly, if not quite, doubled. The talent presented, however, was of such a high order of merit that it was not surprising that the audience seemed never to tire of listening. The Ladies' Schubert Quartette delighted all by their fine shading and blending of voices. Miss Nichols, the first soprano, displayed a finely cultivated voice, and it is seldom that such a remarkably deep alto voice is heard as that of Miss Whitcomb. Mr. Macy, who contributed the balance of the entertainment, is a humorist of fine ability, and completely caught the audience in his recitations, being compelled to respond to several encores after each selection. Not the least of Mr. Macy's accomplishments is his singing, which was heard with great pleasure, and altogther making him the favorite of the evening.

USE

DERMILAVE!

For chapped hands, lips and face, is neither sticky nor greasy, dries instantly, and is elegantly perfumed.

NO LADY'S TOILET

COMPLETE WITHOUT IT.

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DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

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153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

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ETC., ETC.

LOWEST PRICES.

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EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That Tiddledywink parties are becoming very popular in town.

That judging from our contemporaries, Leominster is struggling with the question, "What is and what is not news."

That Sunday last furnished a genuine old-fashioned snow-storm. Oh! Wiggins, why riseth thou not to tell us what thou prophesied three months ago.

That some of those who have at some time consulted "quacks" will recognize the methods described in today's issue as very similar to those of the quack they struck.

That the votes are coming in slowly and surely. This is a case where you can vote early and often. Try to place some good organization in possession of the beautiful banner.

That the memorial adopted at the meeting of the directors of the Fitchburg National bank, on the death of Mr. W. J. Stearns, read beautifully and do not overstep the mark.

That the book question is not dead, only slumbereth. A report is in circulation that the police force is about to get up a subscription to buy a book case for one of the ex-mayors.

That the boys "down town" were "laying" for a certain young fellow, intending to give him the Razzle Dazzle Wednesday evening, but he seems not to have been forthcoming, so they got left this time. He expects a warm reception, however, later.

That some of those who went to the race at Whalom thought, before the race, that they were wise and after the race that they were otherwise. There seem to be many conflicting opinions about the different heats and some think the race ought to be run again.

That some of the hunters are enjoying a little fun at the expense of one of their number who recently went hunting. While riding in a sleigh to his destination he took the charges out of his gun to avoid accidents. After a long tramp and wait in the snow a fox put in an appearance and he pulled the trigger of both barrels only to get a click, click, while the fox complacently trotted off. He afterwards found that he had forgotten to load up again.

January Greeting 1891,

—OF—

KIMBALL & CO.

WE WILL

SAVE YOU

FROM

$1.00 to $6.00

On December prices of an Overcoat or Ulster.

Not a garment has escaped the pruning knife, for we are determined to reduce the stock immediately.

Our east window will give you an inkling of what has been going on inside the store in the way of revising prices.

Come in and see for yourself.

KIMBALL & CO.

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

For the next Thirty Days we shall offer

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS

—IN—

MEN'S, BOYS' & CHILDREN'S

OVER COATS CAPE AND ULSTERS.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

A. R. CHILTON,

FIRST-CLASS

PROVISIONS.

TELEPHONE 22-3.

7 LAUREL ST.

MISS ANNA BURT,

SOLOIST AND TEACHER OF VOCAL MUSIC.

Call or address 14 Payson St. from Tuesday to Saturday of each week.

WALTER CONANT,

FISH AND OYSTERS

Fresh all the time, and includes the best varieties. Everything kept in a first-class fish market.

WALTER CONANT,

6 1-2 MAIN STREET.

F-I-S-H.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.

227 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

We invite the public to call and inspect our

New Glassware.

We have a new kind—Very Handsome.

Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.

LARGE LINE OF

CROCKERY AND PLATED WARE.

F. A. BLANCHARD, PROPRIETOR.

THE HIGH SCHOOL CONTEST.

The competitive essays for the prize of a Gold Watch to be awarded Feb. 7, 1891

THE BOOKS WE READ.

Life is not a holiday, but an education. Good books are a source of instruction in themselves.

Few of us are familiar with the vast amount of literature in our own language. We are acquainted with the names of the authors, but how many have really read their works?

Too little attention is given to the value of a good thorough course of reading. We are unconsciously attracted to a book by its make up; that is, its type, paper, and even cover, if good, will often pursuade us to take up a volume. If the print is fine and blurred or the whole appearance of the book fails to draw our attention, we put it aside although the reading may be the very best. More attention is given to the matter of printing now than formally.

Some of us are apt to rely upon our own judgment and not upon that of our elders in selecting books to read.

In choosing good literature let us, who are younger, be guided by those who have had more experience.

It is not possible to mention all the names of the best authors.

We know who they are and our own Public Library furnishes sufficient good material for a life time of study and profit, if we wisely improve our spare moments.

There is so much sensational trash that it is only a waste of time to look it over even.

Bacon says, "Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed and some few to be chewed and digested."

There is a proper sort of literature to read, whether as a means of helping to while away the long summer days or as a source of mental cultivation.

There is much satisfaction in thinking over a book if the impression left is pleasant and helpful.

It is always best to picture in one's mind representations of places and persons about which one is reading.

Desultory reading is of little benefit to anyone.

We are all influenced, more or less, by books as well as by people and our surroundings.

We can feel that we have been in good company if we have read books which are instructive and entertaining.

The advantage of good or bad reading is shown in one's daily life. Good reading produces good thoughts and gradually causes refinement not only of language but of countenance.

There seems to be a fashion in reading as in almost everything else. By glancing at a modern editor's table, one can see what is the most popular work of the day.

It may be the writing of Browning, Tolstoi or Kipling. The topics may be religion, nihilism or whatever strikes the popular mind as new or original.

A noted writer once said, "Don't grow rusty! Enter into intellectual pursuits and studies as you would amusements, and when you are aged you will have become old so gracefully and pleasantly that you will still be an object of interest and enjoyable companionship."

IRELAND AND THE IRISH.

Ever since the time Strongbow landed upon the shores of Ireland, has the ever recurring "Irish Question," been a bugbear in European politics. Why such has been the case, an examination into a few of the causes that led to the first subjection of this unhappy island will furnish an answer.

Centuries before England had emerged from barbarism and intellectual darkness, Ireland had reached a high degree of civilization and prosperity. Her scholars were among the foremost in Europe: her commerce and her internal industry set a standard for other nations to emulate. Everything, in fact, presaged a remarable career for the little island renowned "in song and story" as the "Gem of the Sea."

Such was her enviable condition in the early centuries; but the Danes, in their marauding tours from the North broke in upon this happy state, and, wherever they went, brought ruin in their wake. They raged and plundered the country from shore to shore; and following this plague arose a worse one—the dissensions among the people themselves, in which class antagonized class, with all the fury of savages, making a reconciliation of the people an impossibility. No wonder then, that Ireland broken in twain by the dissensions of her own excitable people, furnished an easy prey to the English conqueror that pounced upon its unequal victim. So quickly that before the people realized how great a blunder they had made, they found themselves annexed to England. When she awoke from her lethargy, and found into what state she had been precipitated she lent all her energy to casting off the yoke that bound her against her will, but all in vain. Her resources were gone, and her people so

weakened and pauperized that although they struggled manfully for the recovery of her former privileges, they were rewarded only by successive reverses and defeats.

Ireland did not, like Scotland, after her subjection, unite with England, but she availed herself of every opportunity to show her resentment, and her desire to rule herself. The character of the people is such that they cannot, without complaint, endure the slavery that has virtually been imposed upon them; now, after seven centuries of oppression and misrule in Ireland, such as no country has passed through, the Irish come before British Parliament in the character of their eighty-six representatives, and demand the right to govern themselves. They show England how ineffectual in the past, have been all her efforts to govern them to their own satisfaction or England's profit. They tell her that although they have been able many times to overwhelm them by her arms and her resources, she has never subdued them; for in the words of her brilliant patriot and orator, Henry Grattan, "They never will be satisfied as long as the meanest cotter in Ireland has a link of the British chain clanking against his rags. He may be naked, but he shall not be in irons. The answer England makes to Ireland's demand for self government is that she is incapable of self government. The same answer the abolitionists in our own country got when they asked that the Freedmen of the South should have the same rights that were enjoyed by the white citizens of the Republic. The present prosperous condition of the negro shows how specious that argument was then, and clearly proves the ballot and "equality of rights under the law" to have been the great educators of the Negro, without which, such a result could not have come within the range of possibility. If that was true then in the case of a much inferior people, how can England think humanity so simple and stupid as to believe that Ireland, a country which has sent to England alone many of her greatest statesmen, is incapable of doing what a race just out of bondage accomplished with such ease in the United States. The Irish people ask for a Parliament in Dublin, where the Catholics of Munster can take counsel with the Protestants of Ulster, for the regulation of affairs distinctively Irish. Is there anything inordinate in this demand; or anything that threatens the integrity of the Empire? We in Massachusetts have local self-government, but who would be so insane as to insinuate that because such is the fact, the integrity of the Union is in danger? Ireland makes this request of England, and through her authorized representatives agrees to accept "Home Rule" as a final settlement of her troubles. "Justice to Ireland is a British necessity," said Gladstone in 1858. If that was true then how preeminently true is it now? With the state of European affairs in the condition they are today, with a great war imminent on every side, England cannot afford to disregard the just claims of the Irish. If she does, and war arises, then the integrity of the Empire, of which she is so fearful at present will be shattered, and the fault will be with herself. The Irish problem is still an open one. Will England seize the opportunity to solve it, or permit a foreign power to be the arbiter? The future alone can determine.

THE VALUE OF THE WALLACE LIBRARY.

In almost every city and also in large towns, we find a library, sometimes large, sometimes small, according to the size of the place. Why is it these places have libraries? Is it not so that the people who can read, and who can or cannot afford to buy all the books that they want to read, may take books from the library to read?

Reading is one of the most important ways by which a person can obtain knowledge, and thus increase his education. There are always a large number of people in every city, who are unable to buy many books, and where there is a public library they can take books out by paying a small sum for a card.

Where the library has an art gallery, like the one in the Wallace Library, people who do not have beautiful pictures in their homes, and who have not seen any beautiful exhibition of paintings, can see some very fine paintings, in the art gallery of library. Some of these pictures are copies of some great picture, and are very beautiful and valuable.

The reading room is another valuable department of this library. There are very few people in the city who care or can afford to take all the standard magazines. Then there is the poorer class of people in Fitchburg. These people cannot often afford to take even one of these magazines. These magazines are nearly if not quite all to be found in the reading room of the library, where they can read as long as they wish, if they are quiet and behave prudently.

This is a great advantage to the common people; and particularly to the young people of the community, whose parents do not take the magazines.

Some think that the reference room of the Wallace Library is the most valuable part of it. It is very valuable for the students of the Fitchburg High School as will be seen from the following:

If a point comes up in any recitation about a subject with which the class, as a whole, is not very familar, the teacher generally appoints one or more pupils to look up the subject before the next recitation.

The pupils thus appointed may get their information from any source that they can. Now if it should happen, as it sometimes does, that nothing can be found in the Encyclopaedias, or reference books that are in the F. H. S. library, or in the books which the pupils have at home, what are the pupils to do? They may ask their teachers, they are always willing to give us all the information, on any subject, they can, some one suggests. That is true; but they are told by their teacher that it is better for them to find it for themselves, if it is possible, for they are more apt to remember it, if they find it for themselves.

Here is where the reference room comes to the help of the pupils, for if unable to find it elsewhere they can get a book from this room and learn what they wish.

The reference room is of just as much value to any one who cares to look up and become acquainted with any subject.

These are but a few uses for the Wallace Library which make it valuable to the city. It is often said that we do not know how to value anything until by some misfortune or something else, that thing is taken from us. I think it is safe to say that we do not value our library as much now as we should if it were closed for a time and then opened again. ABE.

CALL AT

E. M. READ'S,

SATURDAY,

For some of those

Cream Mints

AND

Butter Caramels.

OUR OWN MAKE.

Everybody delighted with them.

Large assortment of flavors.

JOHN H. PRESCOTT,

PROPRIETOR OF

Hayward's * Temperance * Hotel,

337 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Meals served on the European Plan when desired
First-Class Restaurant.

I have been studying over the matter of caterers, and after carefully considering all the points that presented themselves to my notice, I am satisfied that Fitchburg needs a tip-top caterer, and that the right man can make money by locating here. The Merchants' Association hired a Waltham caterer simply because there were none in this city able to get up the sort of a spread the merchants wanted to sit down to. The hotels have plenty to do without taking these contracts, and the more expensive class of table boarders are all the time calling for more accommodations and a finer service. Waltham is a smaller city than Fitchburg, and there are two first class caterers there. Why could not one run a first rate restaurant and catering business combined at a profit here? There is every reason to think a good man could run such a business to good advantage here.

Why would it not be a good scheme to point out to Mr. James, the caterer who served the Merchants' Association supper, the needs of this city in his particular line. Perhaps he might be induced to turn his thoughts in this direction with pleasure and profit to himself and others. There are many who would patronize a really good restaurant, and there are several places that could be made into a good one. Take for instance the first flight in Dickinson's new block. A good place might be made there. In winter time there are numerous suppers given by the Odd Fellows, Masons and other organizations, and one of these organizations nearly always goes out of town for a caterer. If Mr. James or some other equally good man in the business located here, perhaps the surrounding places would visit this city instead of our organizations having to go forty miles for a man as at present.

In connection with this matter there is another thing that might again be mentioned. It was alluded to last year by the "Sifter" in the columns of the *Sentinel*. There is a large hall over the stage at city hall which could, at a moderate expense, be fitted up for a very comfortable and commodious dining-room. A year or two ago suppers were served in the lower hall, but now the lower halls are needed for offices, and no accommodations for serving suppers remain; not, at least, until the hall I speak of is put into presentable shape. It would be a great convenience if this were done and would, I think, soon pay the city for doing it. Now suppose this dining-room *was* fixed up, and suppose we *had* an A 1 caterer, would not the dancers and others appreciate it? I am only a raven, but I rather think they would.

Dear Roes Paven, commences a letter that has just reached me, as you appear to be speaking of nearly everything that comes under your notice, I wish you would speak of something which has several times come under mine. Perhaps you may not care to do it, or maybe the editor will not like to be so bold in this instance, but if you are both willing I wish you would allude to the custom of smoking and spitting in the ante-room off the stage at city hall. I will not allude to any particular case because the practice is common, and is, I presume, indulged in at almost every dance. Certainly it is indulged in at quite a number, for I have seen it on several occasions. I do not object to a good cigar, but when I see any one smoking cigarettes, I always feel like doing something that will get me into trouble. If the men must smoke between dances I would suggest that a room at the rear of the stage or elsewhere be appropriated for that purpose. It is anything but pleasant as it is now.

After the surprise and sorrow has passed away, occasioned by the sad and sudden death of Mr. Stearns, there is a good time to sit down and reckon up the pleasures, excitement and risks attendant upon coasting on the crust, in fields or on streets where there are obstructions of any kind, and see if it is all it is cracked up to be. It is great sport, I will admit, but there are so many shocking accidents in different places that it would seem as though more precautions are necessary. Letting alone coasting in fields, where there is always more or less danger, coasting on some of our streets is carried on at the peril of many lives. There are a number of streets I can name where grown people as well as children coast in defiance of the law, and often narrowly escape running into vehicles or persons. The coasters should for their own safety take more precautionary measures by placing one of their number on guard at dangerous junctions, crossings and turnings. Tobogganning is not without its dangers, but it has one advantage; you are pretty sure to reach your destination without cantering over a wall or into a fence or tree. I should think some of our enterprising sportsmen would get up a toboggan slide, seeing that we have so many good locations for such a thing.

HERBERT N. RUGG,

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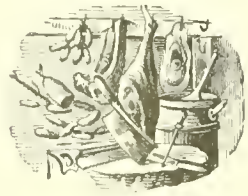
181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

MEAT, POULTRY,

—AND—

GAME



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—AT—

TAGGART'S MARKET,

405 MAIN STREET.

Full line of dried and smoked meats.
Everything of first quality.

5-lb. Boxes Vermont Butter, 27c. per lb.

Canned Sweet Corn, 10c. per can.

Canned Tomatoes, 10c. per can.

Canned Peas, 2 cans for 25c.

10 Bars Cobb's Borax Soap and Cottage Hearth Magazine for six months for $1.00.

Old Caldwell Coffee, 38c. per lb.

—AT—

W. M. GRAY'S,

389 MAIN ST.

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY BY

WRIGHT & OLDFIELD,

360 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE:

$2.00 per year; Single copies, 5 cents.

Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter

JANUARY 31, 1891.

There is one thing the city government must not lose sight of the coming year, and that is the need of more school accommodation. In spite of what has already been done, more accommodation is needed, and will be for some time to come if the city continues to grow at the present rate. The schools of this city have for a long time been looked upon as a source of pride, and the city has not failed to respond in a very liberal way to the demands for more money for educational purposes, but still this city has not been more lavish than some of our neighboring cities, one of which last year proposed to spend $100,000 in the erection of school houses. Such a sum is not needed here, and could not be obtained now if ever so urgently needed. One-half that amount would work great things for our public schools.

* * *

According to present reports, out of the one thousand invitations sent out to business men and others in the city to join the Board of Trade, only 200 have signified an intention of becoming members. This is not as satisfactory as hoped for, although by many it is considered a very fair response. The new Board ought to have a membership of four or five hundred, and it will if all will take hold and do a little. It certainly cannot be claimed that the expense of being connected with it is a burden, while on the other hand it may, and probably will, bring to each member much more than it costs to join. The proper way to run a town is to run it with a vim. If you want business to come into the town, work for it and encourage others to do the same.

As the question of who shall be superintendent of streets is now settled for another year, this seems to be a good time to consider the advisability of making some changes in the department which will tend to improve it. There is too much expected from this official, and no one man can give anything like satisfaction, no matter who he may be. Why not appoint a competent and trustworthy assistant superintendent who, under the direction of the superintendent, shall take charge of one branch of the work, be it sewers or some other branch. This would be a good move, and it seems to us the city charter gives the council that power. There is work enough in this city now for an assistant, and the public convenience would be benefited by the adoption of such a course.

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—OF—
FITCHBURG, MASS.,
CONSISTING OF
31 Different Views
—OF—
BUILDINGS, STREETS, ETC.
25 Cents Each.
PUBLISHED AND FOR SALE BY
J. E. THOMPSON, STATIONER,
118 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.
By mail, postpaid, upon receipt of price.

RIGHT TO THE POINT.

Do you believe in making the best possible use of your money?

Do you want to get the most that you can for a dollar?

Do you want that dollar to buy not only the most but the best?

IF SO

Purchase your Clothing, Hats, and furnishings of

Albee, Lyons & Co.

Nichols & Frost.

CONTINUED SALE

—OF—

MARK-DOWNS

—IN—

EVERY

DEPARTMENT

UNTIL

FEB. 1ST,

When we take our annual inventory.

NEW GOODS ADDED DAILY.

Nichols & Frost.

Attention! R. R. Men.

We would call your attention to our SAFETY SHOE.

This Shoe is made especially for Railroad Men and you cannot afford to be without it.

It is made neat and durable, and should occasion require, the foot could be removed from it in a twinkling.

Call and examine.

Price, $2.50.

The Empire Shoe Store,

367 MAIN STREET.

E. H. BURBANK, Prop'r.
E. B. MARSHALL, Manager.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

We are HEADQUARTERS for everything in the line of MILLINERY, from a Baby's Bonnet for 25 cts. to a Lady's Hat for $10.

At No. 224, which is connected with the main store, we carry Hosiery, Gloves, Corsets, Underwear, Fancy Goods, Notions, etc.

We sell goods low for cash only.

Our customers know we use them well. We will do the same by you. We are agents for Lewando's French Dye House of Boston, the best in the country. We have sent 969 packages since taking the agency about three years ago.

We send Tuesdays and Fridays.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

CHAS. E. KIRBY,
AGENT.
TRAVELERS LIFE AND ACCIDENT
INS. CO. of Hartford,
AND DEALER IN HIGH GRADE
INVESTMENT SECURITIES.

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TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES.

Last week's sketches described our friend E. B. Macy, the auctioneer, and James L. Chapman, treasurer of the Fitchburg Machine Works.

Time speeds away, away
Like torrents on a stormy day,

says one of the poets. No. 46 sometimes (probably) looks back over the events of the past 50 or 60 years, and into his eye steals a gleam of light which tells of the vigor of former days, and which also shows that there is life in the old man yet. Probably he often thinks of the Fitchburg of 50, 40, even 20 years ago, when he was one of the boys along with Gil. Frost, Ben Prentiss, Goldsmith Bailey, C. K. Billings, Geo. Towne, William Towne, George Goddard, O. T. Ruggles, A. J. Lowe, Dr. Wilder, Oliver Ayers, E. G. Lucas, Gardner Farrar and others. As the saying is, "they were on earth" in those days. Ah, but now nearly all those above named are gone over to the great majority. No. 46 has been a very important factor in the fire department, the militia and the social side of the town's existence. When he was in his prime he had an important following, and at the town meeting he counted for a good deal. In years gone by No. 46 did as much, if not more, for the fire department than any other man connected with it. In the old Fusiliers he was the means of getting the most expensive uniform the old company ever had. Some time when you are at liberty get him to tell you some of the stories connected with the old company, the fun they had, the jokes and the pranks, the tramps to Notown and other incidents. He was always foremost in work and money in getting up a Fourth of July celebration, a sleigh party, a barge ride or any other affair. When the town was small and the old Fusiliers were in their glory, Fitchburg was a lively place. At one time everybody of any note belonged to the company, and often the fun was fast and furious. We are inclined to be wroth if the boys and young fellows go in for a wild time now, and the exchanging of gates or signs, unruly conduct with out-houses, tying doors, etc., is severely frowned upon. Fifty years ago No. 46 and some of his companions could have cleared up many a little mystery, no doubt, if they had been inclined to speak, but instead of talking they usually set to work and helped clear up the wreckage or straighten things out. He is a tall man, stoops a little, is a little over 70 years old, and is still a whole-souled and genial comrade. As Shakespeare says, "one man in his time plays many parts." No. 46 has filled that bill to a T. He has been a scythe maker, has run a bowling alley, has been a jailer, chief of police and has filled several other important positions. Who is No. 46?

No. 47 lives on a street that leads into the southern part of the city. His business, while not of gigantic proportions, is still extensive, that is to say it covers a good deal of territory. He is another man who has lived here for many years, started poor but possessed energy, sound common sense and a determination to get along in the world. When he was young he was poor, and his opportunities were not so great as those of many around him, but bit by bit he worked up the ladder of life till now he stands a white-haired, hale and hearty old man, respected by all around him. Have you ever stopped to think how hard it must be to fight against "chill penury" year after year, to be surrounded by it day and night, to have it staring you in the face in the morning and following like a grim shadow at night? Is not the man who raises himself above these surroundings, by his own energy and perseverance, to a position of moderate competency and prosperity, worthy of much credit? Such a man is No. 47. Jolly? that's hardly the word for it. Dance? well, you bet, as the boys say. He has always been an active man. He could preside at a political caucus with as much ease as he could lead an old folks' dance. He has made as much material for putting people (with the aid of water) into that condition said to be next to godliness as most men for miles around here in the same business. Who is No. 47?

OAK CHAMBER SET,

TEN PIECES,

GIVEN AWAY FREE.

Trade with the following firms, all representative men. A card given with every twenty-five cent purchase. Call for the cards when purchasing. Cards to be returned before Feb. 17, 1891. Chamber Set may be seen at FITCHBURG FURNITURE Co.'s.

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W. M. Gray, Grocer, 389 Main St.
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(Commenced in Vol. II, No. 4. Back numbers on hand.)

THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER II.

A WEIRD RECEPTION.

What Mr. Warfield saw through the window was, first, the old family sitting-room, with every detail of whose furnishings he was thoroughly familiar, and the sight of which was alone sufficient to thrill him with feelings which he had not experienced for many a day; a round center-table, of a pattern now out of use, a shaded lamp upon it, with glass pendants dangling from the globe and casting prismatic shades; newspapers and magazines strewn about.

Near the table James Warfield was seated, his face wearing an expectant look. Before him stood a young girl, her hands uplifted in a singular attitude and her eyelids drooping, but not quite closed, lending a striking expression to her truly remarkable face.

She was slender and above the medium height. As she moved her hands slowly up and down there was something indescribably graceful in the movement. Her forehead was slightly wrinkled, as though from intense mental concentration, and her lips were drawn in a way which could not have been normal to them, for their natural curves were of the pleasing Cupid-bow form.

Upon the opposite side of the table another man was sitting, watching the girl with cat-like constancy. He was a short, spare man, with black, deep-set eyes and pallid skin. He was clean shaven and scrupulously neat in attire.

The watcher outside of course instantly inferred that the young woman was Saadi Fenlow, of whose mystical proclivities Jarvis had spoken. The dark-eyed man was her father. On a lounge at the further side of the room another woman was seated, and it was clear that she was far from being in a comfortable frame of mind. Sundry shrugs and jerks of her angular person and quirks of her prim lips proclaimed that she was holding her disapproval in check by a strong effort, and that there was a possibility of her losing control altogether.

The one in the porch marked all these details with a curious combination of emotions. As he knew his brother, the latter had been a man of hard practical sense, and not even a professed believer in religion, although he was a respecter of sacred subjects. There had not been a grain of superstition in his makeup. With the mystical he had evinced no sympathy, yet here he was participating in the trance-manipulations of the young woman and displaying attention as absorbed as that of the clairvoyant herself. Surely there must be something in it.

So reflected the watcher while he waited to see what the girl was about to do. He had never seen such manifestations and he was incredulous now. Saadi seemed to be sincere, yet he did not doubt for a moment that she was self-deceived as to her own condition. She possessed the fine spirituelle features of the natural enthusiast, and her nervous organization was of the finely strung sort. Of such persons one may never know what to expect. At times they manifest physical as well as mental capabilities of an order wholly unlooked for. As though their natures were en rapport with invisible powers, words and deeds flash out in brilliant contrast to the dull routine of their ordinary lives.

For some moments her hands continued to move up and down with rythmic regularity, her body swaying slightly in unison. Then she took two or three quick steps across the room, bent over a small, bare table that stood there, placed the tips of her fingers upon it and waited, moving her lips with inaudible utterance.

The other inmates of the room observed these manœuvres with expectant looks. Even the woman on the lounge ceased to shrug and jerk in the crisis of interest. Mr. Fenlow alone seemed conscious of things apart from his daughter's movements, for he occasionally glanced in a furtive way toward James Warfield, as if he were wishing him to be convinced of something in dispute.

But their waiting was in vain. Saadi suddenly lifted her hands and stepped back with an impatient movement.

"He is holding it down!" she exclaimed in a strained, unnatural voice.

"Whom, Saadi?" her father asked.

"I don't know. I cannot see him, but he is holding it down with his whole weight."

"Is it Mr. Warfield?" Fenlow pursued.

"No—he cannot hold it. He has tried often, you know, even with his hands touching it, but it would always glide from under them. A stronger will than his."

They all glanced instinctively toward the woman on the lounge, Saadi turning her face in her direction, but not lifting her drooping eyelids.

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"No, it is not Miss Pond," she declared, as though repeating what some one else had spoken. At the same time she raised one hand and waived it toward the window outside of which the watcher was standing.

"He is there," she said in a monotone, without the faintest show of excitement. "He is there, he is there."

The one outside drew back hurriedly with an odd sensation of having been seen by invisible eyes. He was certain she had not once glanced toward the window, and even had she done so he stood in shadow; the curtain was only partially drawn aside and it did not seem possible that she could have seen him.

"Of course she did see me," he mused. "She acts cleverly, however. I should have liked to see her raise that table, or make it tip, as I suppose she would have done if she had not felt unbelieving eyes upon her. I could have detected the fraud if she had done it. I wish she would try now."

As though in answer to his wish, which had been mysteriously communicated to the girl, the latter turned again to the table, laid her fingers upon it, and instantly, with a sort of impatient jerk and creak, the piece of furniture tilted upon two legs, and with an awkward side-to-side motion it crossed the room and brought up with a bang against the wall. Saadi had almost to run to keep up with it, and it seemed to the watchers that her fingers scarcely touched the top. There was certainly not the slightest apparent effort on her part. The next moment she faced about, her eyelids still drooping. She was breathing quickly and had grown pale. Miss Pond, uttering a faint scream, stood erect upon the lounge. Mr. Fenlow nodded and smiled approvingly. James Warfield rose and placed the erratic piece of furniture precisely as it had stood before Saadi touched it.

"That was good," said Mr. Fenlow.

"Yes, yes, very good," assented Warfield, a trifle nervously.

"But it seems that Saadi was mistaken about there being any adverse influence in this direction."

As he spoke he advanced to the window, drew aside the curtain and flung up the sash.

The visitor made no attempt to conceal himself, but as the window was opened he stepped boldly forward and confronted his brother.

"Why, it is Ned!" exclaimed the one within, and their hands met and clasped with a momentary cordiality which those who are far from being warm friends sometimes manifest after a prolonged separation.

As he had often done in the old days, Edward Warfield stepped in through the open window and saved the formality of opening the door.

"I came on the belated train," he exclaimed, "and after getting here and finding a good chance to look into the old room without anybody being the wiser, I took a notion to be a little impudent." He sent a glance toward Fenlow which had a suspicion of defiance in it.

Saadi betrayed no more consciousness of the new presence than she had done before he entered. She stood with her face partially averted and her eyelids still drooping in the dreamy fashion. But Mr. Fenlow rose and acknowledged the introduction by James with gracious courtesy.

"You will have to wait for my daughter Saadi, sir," he said smiling, "for she is not in reality present, though she may seem to you to be so."

The visitor noticed that Fenlow wore a black skull-cap, closely fitting, and that his whole attire was also black and sleek. He was a thin, nervous man, and his deep-set eyes had a peculiar brilliance unlike any human eyes the new comer had ever seen. Their quality can not be easily described, but Edward Warfield found his own gaze returning to them frequently, as though they possessed a specific power of fascination.

"Nonsense! what am I thinking of?" he mentally exclaimed, for he found himself yielding to an abnormal train of reflections.

"We were testing Saadi's peculiar gift," explained James. "It is something really remarkable. Did you see what she did?"

"Yes, I saw it," was the answer.

"Can you explain it?"

"I wouldn't wish to try without knowing the young lady better."

"Do you see how she could have performed the feat purely by her own muscular effort? You remember that table, Edward. It is of cherry and very heavy, and Saadi is not strong in her hands. Notice how slender she is."

"This is a new matter for you to be interested in, James," said Edward, with a sharp look at his brother.

"So it is, but one gets drawn into such things before he is aware of it. You don't know what an experience I have had; what strange things have happened and are happening here at the old homestead. I hinted to you about my financial trouble, but that is a long story and I can't tell it all now."

"You sent for me to help you?"

"Yes, but I may not need you now—at least, not in that way. I decided to have

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DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT

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the sale a day earlier, and as it has turned out it was better I did so. I shall not now have to ask any leniencee from you. The old homestead will pay for itself, after all."

"The man you sent to the Fitchburg station to meet me said you had sold the place. I thought it strange you would let it go out of the family knowing how we had always felt about it."

"It will come back again, Ned. All will be well and I shall buy it back," said the host, in a hurried tone.

"Then you don't need me now I am here?"

"Not for financial help. That will not be needed, if all goes as has been predicted, but I am glad you have come. It seems good to have you here again."

"It seemed equally good to you when I went away, if I remember rightly," said the visitor smiling.

"So it did; we didn't agree very well, but we were mere children then, and now we may disagree and still be friends. Besides, there are many things to interest you. I am living a new life in which I can discern unthought-of possibilities."

They still stood near the window by which Edward had entered. The other had closed it, and after lingering near them for a moment as if he had a curiosity to see how the new comer would regard the manifestations to which he had been treated on the part of Saadi, Mr. Fenlow returned to his chair at the centre-table.

"Can we not see each other privately?" Edward asked, with a slight frown at Fenlow.

"Yes, yes, bye and bye, but you will wish to observe more of Saadi's works. They are wonderful. She was conscious of your presence before we suspected it."

"She probably caught a glimpse of me when I first stepped upon the piazza. I stood quite close to the window and I suppose the light from within shone upon me."

"You think she saw you?"

"She could have known in no other way. No, James, if you have been giving up your reason to such foolery, don't expect me to do it."

Just the shadow of a frown crossed the other's brow, and his lips were compressed. James had a milder manner than did his brother, yet there was that in his face which indicated plenty of firmness. A real quarrel between them would be doubtful as to its outcome.

"You haven't forgotten my old views in such matters, I hope?" he asked.

"I think I remember them more forcibly than you do."

"Because I seemed to have changed them?"

"Yes."

"You are mistaken. I believe only what I see, or have equally strong proof of. I always stood on that ground. Ignorance is merely a lack of knowledge, and an understanding of our science does not necessarily imply an equally full comprehension of all sciences, but we will not discuss that now. You have eyes to see, and I hope you will use them. I am glad to have you here to help me to clear away the cobwebs which may get into my brain before I know it."

"If James had felt an impulse of anger it had as quickly passed away, and his manner had never been more cordial and reasonable than now.

"We will say nothing about it," said Edward, coldly. "I came, of course, to help you in your trouble. Now I am here I will stay a day or two, for I shall wish to know how matters stand."

"You shall know all as well as I can explain to you."

"Isn't the young lady remaining in her trance rather longer than necessary?"

"She had not finished her work. She was to tell me about the sale. You see, I do not even know the name of the purchaser of the estate."

"That is a queer condition of things."

"It is the truth, but Saadi knows, or I believe she can at least describe the purchaser so I can identify him."

"Was that her object in going into what you call a trance tonight?"

"It was partly for that."

"But not wholly?"

"Mr. Fenlow wished me to see her power over lifeless matter."

"I suppose she has practiced the table-tipping frequently?"

"Yes, but there is something unsatisfactory in that. I suspected unconscious muscular effort on her part, but Mr. Fenlow told me she could convince me that the effort was not a physical one. You saw what she did."

"I saw it, yes."

"Do you think she could have performed that feat by the mere power of her hands?"

"She did it and there could have been no other force."

"Wait until you know more of her, Edward. Wait until she has spoken to you, until you have seen the depths of truth and goodness in her eyes, until you are familiar with her natural-born grace and the unqualified honesty of her purposes. A man's mind and a woman's might, you will say."

Edward Warfield smiled.

"Do you say such things to her as well as of her?" he asked.

"Certainly not."

"To her father, then?"

"No."

"It will come to that, I can see plainly. It would be hard to say which of you—Miss Fenlow or yourself—is in the most abnormal condition. Perhaps she is a mesmerist. I believe all such occult sciences go together. If she is, you are a very willing subject, I dare say."

There was a sting of earnestness in this raillery, though it was lightly spoken. James, however, did not reply to it. At that moment Saadi turned toward them, and they could see that her eyes no longer drooped in that peculiar manner which was characteristic of her trance state.

James hastened to her side and quickly acquainted her with his brother's presence. They were introduced, after which the girl sank languidly into an arm-chair, evincing marked signs of fatigue.

"Pardon me for forgetting your inner man, Edward," said James. Miss Pond left the room at that moment and he followed her.

Mr. Fenlow attempted to talk with the guest, but failed. Edward was a man given to the indulgence of moods, and he was not prepared to treat Fenlow as a privileged member of his brother's household. He looked upon him as something of an interloper.

He could not, however, restrain himself

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from feeling an interest in Saadi. That she was no ordinary character was sufficiently plain. As James had declared, the honesty and goodness that shone from her eyes could not be counterfeited. She might deceive herself, but she was incapable of trying to deceive others.

"I can understand how James has been led by her example in a half-belief in her clairvoyant powers. She is a rare person."

Such was Edward's mental comment, and when Fenlow had for a few moments left them alone together he broke the silence by saying:

"Your father seems quite recovered from his injury, Miss Fenlow?"

"Oh, yes, thanks to Mr. Warfield's kindness."

"I understand that your home is not in this vicinity?"

"No. We can hardly claim any place as our home. We have travelled much for several years, and came quite recently from England."

"Have you acquaintances in Fitchburg?"

"None. We were a month in Worcester and spent a few days in Lancaster. It is not everywhere that we can find real friends."

There was a note of sadness in Saadi's tone that impressed her listener powerfully. It occurred to him that possibly the sleek, peculiar man might have proved a social incumbrance to the daughter. He has chosen a life apart from the ordinary walks of business or professional existence, and she had to follow him. Her uncommon power and practices were of a sort to place her under adverse suspicion. Those who did not know her intimately would believe her to be no more nor less than a fraud. Already Edward found himself mentally defending her against such imputations.

"The man is a fraud and the daughter an unconscious victim," was his inward decision.

"It seems that you came in the midst of my brother's misfortunes," said Edward aloud.

"It looks more as if we brought them upon him," was the unexpected reply.

"What do you mean?"

"He met with no losses until after we came. It was my fortune to first tell him of his losses. You know I have the power of seeing such things before many know of them."

"You claim the so-called power of second sight?"

"I claim nothing. It is not always that I really know, yet it seldom fails me."

They were interrupted by the entrance of James, whom his brother followed to the dining-room. There, while the guest leisurely partook of the meal prepared for him, they talked of the days before the old home ties were broken. They were more like friends, so it seemed, than they had ever been before.

"I didn't wish to speak of my affairs tonight, Edward," said the other, as they separated on the stairs.

"But I shall insist upon knowing all tomorrow," said the guest.

"Yes, tomorrow. Good night."

Lamp in hand, Edward ascended the stairs and bent his steps toward the bedroom which used to be his own. As he passed along the hallway it seemed to him that there were footsteps following him. He looked back, but saw no one.

But as he reached the door of his room and placed his hand on the latch, the sounds behind him assumed tangible distinctness. This time, in facing about, he was a little startled to see Fenlow standing uncomfortably close to him.

The man had donned a black shawl upon his shoulders, which, falling over his arms, placed akimbo, resembled in the gloom the wings of a bat.

"What do you want?" demanded Warfield.

"A few words with you," was the low-spoken reply.

(To be continued.)

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Secret Societies.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

The Hampshire *Gazette* estimates that the payments made to the various assessment and benefit Orders in the village of Florence amounts to fully $5,000 per month, or $60,000 per year, with the present membership. The effect of this upon general business is thus described by the *Gazette*: "As one of our leading merchants is closing out and will move to another city, and another is contemplating doing the same in the near future, it might be well to look for the reason. Those who are in business here know full well the reason, that it is depression of trade. A few years ago business boomed along merrily, merchants were pleased, new stores were opened, and everything in the business line pointed to a bright future. But there came a change. It began after a few of our citizens had received their expected money from the Iron Hall." If any merchant is closing out simply on account of these Orders, it is a short-sighted policy. To move to other places is no remedy, for they are springing up everywhere. So many are an evil, we frankly admit, but within the next two years quite a generous crop of them will go to that bourne from whence no "lodger" returns.

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The Golden Lion issued nearly 30 new certificates last night.

Assessment No. 18 in the Non-secret Endowment Order expires today.

Garnet Lodge, Order of Ægis initiated three candidates, Wednesday evening. J. E. Field has received a check for $75 for three week's sickness.

A magnificent exemplification of the four degrees of Red-Manship is talked of in the near future at city hall. Four different degree staffs from out of town Tribes will do the secret work.

The Golden Grail will now pay $100 in six or 12 months; $200 in one year or $300 in two years or at death. Sick Benefits of $10 and $5 are also paid. The assessments are $2 and $4.

The officers of Honesty Tent, No. 53, Order of Helping Hand, were installed, Tuesday evening, by Past Guide F. W. Aldrich. Two members were initiated and three applications received. The Order now numbers over 5000 members and is growing rapidly.

The Iron League is one of the latest of the endowment societies to be incorporated under the general laws of the state of New Hampshire. It will pay $100 in one year.

The Golden Cycle is another new aspirant on the endowment plan. Manchester will have branch No. One. It promises to pay $700 in seven annual endowments of $100 each.

The officers of Monarch Lodge, No. 86, Order of Fraternal Circle, were installed, Monday evening, by Deputy Supreme President Williamson of Worcester. An entertainment and supper followed. The affair was a great success.

There will be a rehearsal of degree staff of Minnestema Council, I. O. R. M., tonight, at 7 o'clock. The Adoption degree team of Nashua Tribe rehearses, Monday at 7 p. m. The adoption degree will be worked on two candidates Monday's sleep.

The following officers of the U. O. G. C. were installed Monday evening. P. N. C., H. A. Hamlin; N. C., E. C. Babbitt; V. N. C., Abby J. Battles; prel., E. L. Beecher; F. K. R., D. B. Whittier; K. of R., Clara V. Wood; treas., L. M. Davis; herald, E. H. Fletcher; W. I. G., Hattie Fletcher; W. O. G., H. L. Rice.

J. O. H. Woodman, Supreme Secretary, and John D. Bruce, D. S. P. of the Non-Secret Endowment Order visited Pawcatue Assembly No. 35, of Westerly R. I. on Tuesday the 27 for the purpose of installing the officers. The meeting was a very interesting and enthusiastic affair. Instrumental and vocal music with speaking and recitations followed the installation service. After which a very excellent collation was served.

The following officers of Mecca Lodge, No. 294, Order of Tonti, were installed Tuesday evening, by Past President Woodworth: President, Charles Oliver; vice-president, W. H. Howard; secretary, W. G. Hidden; treasurer, Harry Aitchison. The lodge has recently paid B. C. Heath $100 and W. H. Howard, $75 for four and three week's sickness respectively.

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Secret Societies.

MASONS.

King Kalakana of the Sandwich Islands was a Mason of high degree.

One of the oldest Masons in New England is Mr. Horace Hastings, who was inititated in March 1820.

New Orleans is to have a new Masonic temple to cost $91,500. When finished it will be one of the finest temples in the country.

The Master Mason of Minneapolis and St. Paul warns the public against one, Victor Studley, and states that he is unworthy of confidence.

Charity never faileth. The Free Masons of Scotland are trying to raise $50,000 as a charity fund, for aged and indigent Masons, their widows and children. The interest is to be applied to this purpose. It seems that there are 300 applicants for help. The fraternity have many poor members there. "The poor ye have always," said the Master; and never before, in the British Islands, was the cry of the poor more attended to.

The elegant Masonic Temple at Nashua, which when fully completed will have cost $70,000, was dedicated with imposing ceremonies on Wednesday, Jan. 28, under the charge of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, together with officials of the different branches of the craft. Many high rank Masons from all over New England were present, including Gov. Tuttle of New Hampshire. Rev. E. E. Bolles of New York gave the oration. A magnificent banquet followed for which seven hundred tickets were issued, none but Masons and their ladies being admitted. The Mendelssohn Quartet, and other fine talent, with Howard M. Dow, organist, all of Boston, gave a fine entertainment in the evening which followed a brilliant Masonic reception. The magnificent pipe organ placed in the new Temple is a subject for general admiration. It cost $2,500 and was made by Woodbury & Harris of Boston.

ODD FELLOWS.

Philadelphia has 150 lodges of Odd Fellows, with a membership of 24,184.

The annual report of the York County Odd Fellows' Mutual Relief Association shows it to be in a prosperous condition.

The annual session of the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts takes place in Odd Fellows' hall, Boston, on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS.

The regular meeting of Alpine Lodge No. 35, held Tuesday evening, was a very enthusastic and animated one. Nearly every member present took part in a discussion of great importance to the welfare and prosperity of the lodge relating to the purchase of paraphernalia for working the different ranks, the establishment of degree staffs, etc. It was unanimously agreed that the lodge was in condition to take steps in this important direction of mak- the work capable of finer and more impressive rendition. There are now two candidates in readiness and there is every prospect of a prosperous train for this lodge.

IRON HALL.

After the regular meeting of Local Branch 390, Wednesday evening, union entertainment was given by the Local and Sisterhood Branches, consisting of a musical and literary entertainment, followed by a basket lunch in the lodge room. The members of both Branches are unanimous in saying that it was the best and most sociable entertainment ever given in the hall. Miss Emma Walker and Ernest Cutter presided at the piano, Will L. Walker gave readings, Mrs. Clara Welch songs, the Apollo Banjo club selections and Walter Boutelle and Hattie Hosmer piano duetts.

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The Floy Crowell Company closed their season at Rockport on Monday for a month, on account of Miss Crowell's sickness, opening again at Jamestown, N. Y., in March.

Rosina Vokes is said to be a very charitable woman. Recently while she and her company were playing an engagement in Detroit, a certain combination, which had been playing the romantic and spectacular drama of "She," found itself stranded, and the company, individually, without a cent of money. The news reached Miss Vokes's ears, who, without ado, personally paid the total bill of each one of the unfortunates, bought for the railroad tickets to their several homes, and forced upon each one, in addition, a sufficient amount of cash to cover all possible "incidentals" on their journey home.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

Pantomime still reigns supreme at the Boston theatre, the Hanlon Volter Martinetti English pantomime and Novelty company occupying the Boards. The opening feature, "A Terrible Night," is an original farcical comedy in pantomime that is a clever, skilfully constructed piece for a half hour of constant roars of laughter. It affords an opportunity for the display of the most laughable gymnastic exhibitions and feats, and this the Martinetti family improve to its greatest advantage. The troupes mid-air performances are simply amazing.

At the Hollis street theatre Fanny Davenport's Cleopatra is making a great hit. Miss Davenport first produced this play in New York three weeks ago, and she made a most pronounced success in the title part. It was spoken of as the most gorgeous production ever given in America, and the theatre nightly was crowded to the door. The engagement is postively limited to two weeks and will close Saturday next.

At the Globe Marie Tempest is making herself more popular every night. As Dorothy she has achieved quite a reputation and lovers of opera are flocking to the Globe nightly in large crowds. On Monday next Rose Coghlan makes her appearance in Lady Barter. A big run is expected and the sale of seats is quite large already.

"Ship Ahoy" continues its merry run at the Park theatre for another week at least and is as jolly as ever. Some little touches have been added to it which brighten the tame scenes and the production is, in short, simply immense. A number of Fitchburg people have been to see it and all agree that "simply immense" is the best way to describe it. It will continue probably two weeks longer.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

The famous Dixey will appear at the opera house tonight. A Western exchange says of him: Mr. Dixey does probably the most artistic work of his career in his new piece. That is he comes nearer to what is recognized as art by the general public. The license of burlesque often made it difficult to designate where the purely ludicrous and grotesque leave off and real art begins. But as the school boy and the old man Mr. Dixey does some legitimate comedy work worthy the ripest comedians of that school. His old man especially is a surprise in its faithfulness to the distinguishing marks of disrepancy. The scene of the old cronies around the punch bowl is worthy the pencil of a painter.

Saturday evening last a good-sized audience laughed and cheered "Kindergarden" almost continually for two hours and a half. To the veteran play goer all plays of this kind have something of a nutty flavor, but a well-selected company always manages to draw out as many laughs as there are minutes in the hour. The company was well balanced and every member did good work. Kindergarden is still a good show.

Monday evening J. W. Carner struggled with Rip Van Winkle before a small house. The band accompanying the company was a good one. Somehow the companies running the best bands seem to carry the poorest actors, and the people here are beginning to be somewhat suspicious of these good band companies. A man must have considerable courage to play Rip Van Winkle in places where Jefferson has been on several occasions, unless he has an exceptionally strong company. Mr. Carner would do much better, first, if he had stronger support; second, if he threw a little more feeling into his play, and lastly, if he was more deliberate in his speech and actions. To be honest about Monday's Rip, we cannot pronounce it a decided success.

It is seldom that Fitchburg has such an aggregation of talent as that at the opera house Thursday evening. Hill's World of Novelties is a performance of exceptional merit and an entertainment worthy of the support it is receiving.

For next week Manager Dunn announces one attraction, "Fairies' Well" Thursday evening. "The Fairies' Well" is a strong Irish play written by Com. T. Murphy and produced by W. H. Powers. It deals with a remarkably bright and refreshing story of Irish life, dealing with the higher elements of peasanty and aristocracy of the Emerald Isle. It is full of interest, fresh and inspiring, with strong scenes and plenty of novel and original episodes. The scenery is elaborate and is carried by the company.

OPERA HOUSE.

THURSDAY, FEB. 5.

FAIRIES' WELL.

FEB. 11 AND 12.

THE GREAT METROPOLIS.

A. H. BURGESS,

Druggist

AND APOTHECARY

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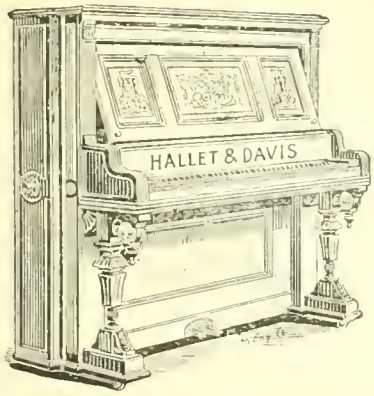

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THEY SAY

That "Millie the Quadroon" was a good play well played.

That girls are in great demand at the Bay State shirt shop.

That the farmers' supper was a financial as well as social success.

That the Sons of Veterans will present a war drama to the public some time in February.

That D. C. Nickerson has a store that cannot be beaten in town or out unless you go a long way off.

That the Lady Board had a most successful meeting last Tuesday at the residence of F. A. Whitney.

That the assault case of the present week has created more talk than any case of that nature ever in court here.

That there are a few streets which it is desirable to name. A street without a name is like a dog without a tail.

That the Russell orchestra has been engaged for a course of private parties to be given here in February and March.

That one man got bitten on the trot the other day. That there is nothing like knowing which horse is going to win.

That all the lodges in Leominster have a good chance to get the $75 banner. It will be a beauty and don't you forget it.

That the gentleman who sent the boy after the gold watch will not do so again. Verily the boy was smarter than the man.

That every one seems to like Hosmer's news' stand in its new location, and that it is a great improvement on the old store.

That arrangements for the old folks' ball are about complete, and its success is assured. The Russell orchestra will furnish the music.

That W. W. Green will give his exhibition ball a week from Friday, and it will be a red letter day, or rather evening, for the little folks.

That the Hose boys promise us a first class time next Thursday, and from what we know of them we do not doubt but that everything they promise will be faithfully fulfilled. Encourage their efforts by buying a ticket.

That the town will be asked to increase the pay of its clerk and treasurer, and that in all probabilities, unless it is done, we shall lose the services of Mr. Joslin. The duties of the office increase each year, and have now become assiduous enough to require most of a person's time; hence the asked-for increase.

That Brown's masque ball was a great success, and that most of the costumes were pretty and becoming. That there was one there that didn't seem more than a foot from where it began to where it ended. It was certainly short at both ends.

That we are to have the question of the Australian ballot system presented to the town for either approval or disapproval. That no town that has had a chance to adopt the system has refused to do so. That we have in town some who will oppose it for the reason that no clique can work their schemes or pull wires so handily under that system. But we think, despite any opposition, that the system will "get there" just the same.

OUR JANUARY

MARK-DOWN

SALE

Is now going on. Do not fail to take advantage of it and supply your wants at greatly reduced prices.

GIRARD & IRISH,

ONE PRICE

Dry Goods, Cloaks & Millinery,

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J. H. MACK & CO.,

Plumbers and Steam Fitters.

FINE SANITARY PLUMBING

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QUACK, QUACK, QUAKE!

Last week we promised to give our readers some instances of the frauds practiced by some of these travelling quacks. Here are a few sweet, refreshing cases. An old lady living at Westminster, widow of Daniel Mossman, tells her experience with one at the American House substantially as follows: "I think he must have mesmerized me. He got hold of my wrist, held it for a long while and finally told me that I was suffering from every complaint flesh is heir to. He impressed me so much that I really believed him. I had worked very hard and had laid up a little for a rainy day, and the day I went to see that sweet humbug was a rainy day for me. He told me that I could not live long anyway, that I must draw my money and enjoy life. When I asked his terms he said it would take a year to cure me and would cost $365. I told him I could not raise that amount and he advised me to take a six months' certificate and he would make the price $120. I said I thought I could not pay that and he told me to go home and get my bank book and come back the next day. He made out a certificate and I signed it. He turned it over and I signed it on the other side. Next morning I went back and asked him to revoke what had been done the day before, and I said I would pay any price reasonable to break it, but he flew up like a wild cat and said he held my note on the Rollstone bank and would keep it till I paid it. The agreement was made in December and I was to have 36 tickets, but I had only 11. I told him I could not get to the hotel during the month of April and wanted to know if I should lose the month's treatment. He said that I should not. I was away from the middle of March to the middle of April, and when I went to him again he said my time had expired and demanded the balance of my tickets, and I had only visited him four times. I reminded him of the agreement that I was to have the month of May if I was away in April, and he said 'all right.' He put up two small bottles, and when I asked him for his liniment he gave me a pint bottle wrapped in paper, but when I opened it I found about two table-spoonfuls of mixture. I threatened to go to the city authorities, but he only laughed."

The above is only one of a number of cases of rascally treatment. If a regular practicing physician here was to resort to such tricks an indignant public would ride him out of town on a rail, his only covering being the blue canopy of heaven and a coat of tar decorated with feathers, or at least, that is what he would deserve. We intend to investigate other cases of similar nature, and if a case can be found that will render the quack amenable to law, and the dupe will testify, this paper will be happy to publish the facts. If people will foolishly trust themselves in the hands of some of these grave diggers, let them be fully acquainted beforehand with the men with whom they are dealing. The following are cases contributed by our Leominster correspondent, the same quack being the "doc:"

I find that Mrs. —— made a contract with the doctor for about $500 for a six months' treatment. The money was paid, and after about four months' treatment the doctor disappeared and nothing was heard from him for several months. He broke his contract and did not effect a cure as agreed, although the man says that the medicine helped his wife to a great extent, so much so that while she is by no means well, she is much improved. When they did hear from him he tried to get them to give him more money for another contract, but this did not work, and they never paid any attention to the doctor's letters. He says while the man is not what he calls a quack, he is certainly a big fraud. A lady residing on the Fitchburg road consulted the doctor and was warranted a positive cure. She paid him from $50 to $75 for simply nothing, as he did not even afford her relief in any way. But the worst case found was that of a lady named Jewett, who owned a place here valued at a few hundred dollars, all she had in the world. She consulted this great benefactor and was told that for $600 he would warrant a permanent cure. The poor lady mortgaged her house, took the $600 and went to Boston to be cured. She grew worse, and when flat on her back, under their care, they demanded $250 more before they could cure her. What they gave her never amounted to anything and she died while in Boston, and it was just after this that the doctors were not heard of around here for several months, but whether that case had anything to do with their disappearance or not no one knows. Taking in all their practices in this town, they have been a series of gigantic frauds.

"Ham and Eggs" is the title of a Kansas paper devoted to the interests of the hen and hog

SEASON 1890-91.

FIFTH ANNUAL

ANNOUNCEMENT

OF THE

Y. M. C. A.

POPULAR COURSE

—OF—

ENTERTAINMENTS

AT CITY HALL.

The Association now presents with a great degree of satisfaction and confidence, the announcement of their Fifth Popular Course. The appreciation of this department of the Y. M. C. A. work by the public, and also by the membership, has been manifested during the past two seasons by the most liberal patronage and support. The committee in charge therefore feel like reciprocating in the matter, and have contracted for some of the very best talent in the field. A perusal of the list will be sufficient proof of the fact.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19,

LECTURE

—BY—

EX-GOV. WILL CUMBACK,

OF INDIANA.

Subject:—"The Common Man."

FRIDAY, MAR. 13.

CONCERT

BY THE

Temple Male Quartette

OF BOSTON,

ASSISTED BY

MISS BERTHA SILSBY, Cornetist,

MISS LUCIA MEAD PRIEST, Reader.

COURSE TICKET, RESERVED SEAT, $1.50.
SINGLE TICKETS, - 25 CENTS.
RESERVED SEAT, - 35 CENTS.

Members of the Association can obtain tickets of admission to the course free on application to the General Secretary. Reserved Seats 50 cents extra. COURSE TICKETS are now on sale by members and by the General Secretary at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms; also by Macurda & Sawyer and J. E. Thompson

☞The committee feel that after presenting such an array of talent, so well known for marked ability, that it is perfectly absurd to urge the public to "Pack the House," "Crowd the House," or "Make it Standing Room Only," for

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LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

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DAY STREET

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Sunday Services.

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a. m., German service with sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30 service of worship with sermon by Rev. R. S. Underwood; 12 m., Bible School; 4, Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, service of worship with sermon by Rev. R. S. Underwood. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "The Deceitfulness of Sin," repeated by request; Sunday School at 12 m; evening service, 7 p. m., "Systematic Giving as Related to Systematic Living." All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Sermon and holy communion at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer (choral service) at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, communion at close of service; Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's Epworth meeting at 6 p. m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Darkest England and the Way Out;" Sunday School at 12 m.; young people's service at 6 p.m.; at 7 p. m., vesper service. All are welcome.

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor; The Christian Endeavor Pledge Idea, applicable to everybody; 12 m., Sunday School; 7 p. m., "Christian Endeavor Day" service, special program, including short addresses by the president of the society and the pastor.

"World Wide" Salvation Army, barracks at 190½ Main street, rear entrance on Crescent street. Services at 11 a. m., 3 and 8 p. m., Capt. Caldwell, leader. All cordially invited.

Railroad Men's meeting at Red Men's hall, 239½ Main street, at 5 p. m.

Y. M. C. A. Bible training class in Association rooms, from 9.15 to 10.15 a. m. Meeting for men at 4 p. m.

East Street Mission Sunday School will meet at 3 p. m. All are welcome.

The Finn Temperance Union will hold a gospel temperance meeting at W. C. T. U. rooms, Wixon's block, at 4. p. m.

M. E. Church, West Fitchburg, Rev. Edward Higgins, pastor. At 10.30 a. m., preaching service; 12 m., Sunday School; 6 p. m., young people's meeting; 6.30, praise and prayer service.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday School at 12 m.

The New Church (Swedenborgian) services will be held in Knights of Honor hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.45 a. m.

MARRIED.

HOLROYD—ROSS—Jan. 22, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. C. M. Addison, George S. Holroyd and Sarah E. Ross.

DIED.

DAVIS—Jan. 27, Samuel W. Davis, 69 yrs., 4 mos., 22 days.

HOLLINGSWORTH—Jan. 23, Herbert C. Hollingsworth, 21 yrs., 7 months.

HUMES—Jan. 13, Milton Goodrich, son of Willard L. and Emma L. Humes, 2 yrs., 5 mos., 23 days.

CAVANAGH—At West Fitchburg, Jan. 24, Margaret Cavanagh, 31 yrs., 12 days.

MANNING—At Orange, N. J., Jan. 26, Joseph E. Manning, formerly of this city.

DEMERS—Jan. 27, Celanire, wife of Isaac Demers, 56 yrs., 3 mos., 7 days.

HITCHCOCK—Jan. 28, Eliza S., widow of George L. Hitchcock, late of Ashby, 74 yrs., 10 months.

THE

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BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

GLACÉ NUTS

AND

Cream-Dipped Orange Slices,

TO-DAY, AT

E. M. READ'S.

Our trade on Cream Mints and Butter Caramels was larger than expected, last week.

Will try and have enough to supply the demand in future.

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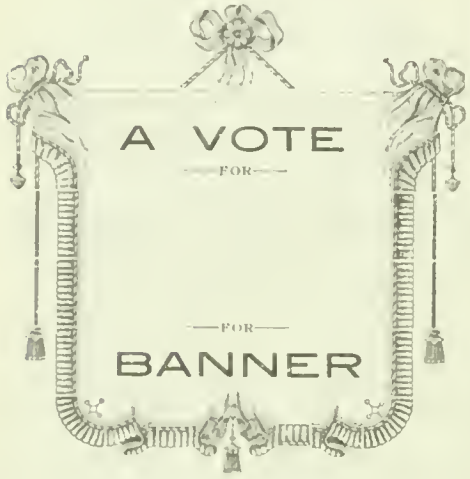
BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.



Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS.

TONIGHT.

Dixey in "Seven Ages" at the opera house.

MONDAY.

School committee meets.

TUESDAY.

City government meets at 7.30.

WEDNESDAY.

Wednesday club's seventh annual party and dance at city hall.

Hibernian's dance at G. A. R. hall.

THURSDAY.

"The Fairies' Well" at the opera house.

FRIDAY.

Bricklayers' and Masons' Union ball at city hall at 8 p. m.

M. W. CUMMINGS,

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H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St.
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St.
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block.
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 374 Main St.
E. F. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St.
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St.
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St.
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. A. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 6.

FITCHBURG, MASS., FEBRUARY 7, 1891.

$2.00 PER YEAR
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DO YOU KNOW THAT

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PHILBROOK,

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HOUSE FURNISHERS

ARE SELLING

CARPETS,
FURNITURE,
BEDS,
BEDDING,
PARLOR STOVES,
AND RANGES,

And everything else wanted to furnish your house complete from top to bottom at prices that would ruin them if they should continue to do so longer than the month of January.

Well, the fact is just this, we have looked over our stock and find many articles which we cannot duplicate. A lot of short pieces of Carpeting, enough for one or two carpets, and to close them out will sell for much less than they will cost two months from now.

We do not confine this to cash trade, but will give our special system of credit as usual.

Come and see what a little money will do at

222 MAIN ST.
OPERA HOUSE BLOCK,
FITCHBURG, MASS.

MR. JOHN J. SHEEHAN.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

We have pleasure, this week, in presenting to our readers the senior councilman, John J. Sheehan. Mr. Sheehan is now serving his third consecutive year in the common council and has previously served five years in the same body. In addition to this he has served on the board of overseers of the poor and has for several years been a member of the civil service examining board. He was appointed a deputy sheriff by Sheriff Nye in 1890 and is well qualified for the position from his familiarity with legal affairs. He is well-known in all circles of society and is acknowledged by all parties as an able and efficient officer and indefatigable worker in everything he undertakes. Mr. Sheehan was born in Ireland, Feb. 5, 1844, and came to this country when only four years old. He has lived in this city since July 1864 and has been actively connected with politics for several years. In politics he is a Democrat and is enthusiastic in his party's cause. He is a trustee for Court City of Fitchburg, No. 7680, A. O. F. of A., and is also a member of the A. O. H.

NOW IS THE TIME

TO BUY FURS.

We have received from a manufacturer in New York, a large consignment of LADIES' FURS consisting of CAPES, COLLARS and MUFFS, WITH ORDERS TO SELL.

These goods are all new and fresh, and many of them will be sold for half the price the same kind were before the Holidays.

Every article is warranted as represented, and can be returned if not perfectly satisfactory.

Men's Fur Collars and Cuffs ready made or made to order, at very low prices.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers,
Hatters, and Furriers.

NOW IS THE TIME
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TRIMMING
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PRUNING
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H. A. HATCH, 204 Main St
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8 HAWES ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.

227 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

We invite the public to call and inspect our

New Glassware.

We have a new kind—Very Handsome.

Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.

LARGE LINE OF

CROCKERY AND PLATED WARE.

F. A. BLANCHARD, PROPRIETOR.

Whispers and Rumors.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

If you want to be well up in the world just step into one of the four hydraulic elevators in the new Ames' building, facetiously called "High Aims," and be lifted to the roof, where, for the time being, you are "Monarch," etc. Its location need not be mentioned as it "bobs up serenely" to the naked eye miles and miles away, the highest building of the Hub. It is 14 stories high, and a magnificent specimen of architecture and solidity. There are 120 rooms, all for office or banking purposes, and we are told that the top floor is to be utilized for a large restaurant, but this is not authentic. From sidewalk to the stars and stripes on the roof, the height is 248 feet, 26 feet higher than Bunker Hill monument. The corridor floors throughout the building are in marble mosaics, that of the entrance hall on the ground floor being very elaborate and of exquisite design, the semi-circulr vaulted ceiling giving a most pleasing effect. The main stairway and flooring of the hall is in white marble, the corridor walls having a marble wainscoating about five feet high, making the whole interior a model of perfection.

A novel event a day or two since was the reception held by Sir Bedivere, a noble specimen of dogship, imported by Mr. E. B. Sears, the furrier, for his famous kennels at Melrose, Mass. Of all dogs the St. Bernard is the most dignified and noble in expression, and of all of its kind Sir Bedivere is the peer, so declared. He is three and a half years old, 34 inches high and weighs 220 pounds. He has taken no less than 44 prizes at bench shows and cost nearly $8,000. The reception was held at 39 Summer street, was public and lasted over two hours. Owing to the tired condition of the dog, he having been quite ill on the voyage and somewhat overcome by his New York reception, Mr. Sears was obliged to close his doors, but not until about 4,000 persons had taken a peep at him as he reclined on his luxurious couch of tiger skins.

In a narrow, stuffy alley at the North End lives an old Italian who is actually poverty stricken, and many times goes to bed supperless, yet he clings tenaciously to three old paintings in his possession of great value. They are pronounced by artists as possible originals and the work of Raphael Titian and Parmigiano. Nothing will induce this old beggar to part with them. He is a genuine artist in spirit and has kept these pictures more than 40 years. He has had opportunities of disposing of them at a much larger sum than he paid, yet he won't let go. Are they originals? Will he be able to retain them if so? One wonders how he can hope to in that rattle trap where he resides and among thieves of the lowest order.

Twenty-three of the 24 beds for lymph patients at the Massachusetts general hospital are still occupied, and all of those who were first received a month ago are still there. Most of them are better than when they first came for inoculation, although in a few of the extreme cases the improvement is slight. In no case have injections proved dangerous, as has been true of some cases in other cities. The 24th bed was taken, but the occupant left of his own accord. The death of one of the lymph patients in New Haven will not increase the desire of consumptives to undergo treatment, yet to judge by the physician's statement, this death was not due to inoculation. There are indications of several cures among the 23 patients here.

The Massachusetts Women's Suffrage Association and Temperance Union were given a hearing at the State House yesterday and presented an earnest petition that women qualified to vote for members of the school committee may be given the right to vote in all town and municipal elections and for all town and city offices. Good luck to them.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.

ARTISTIC
FLORAL DESIGN WORK,
A SPECIALTY.

F. O. WILLARD,
FLORIST,
GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.
Telephone 13-3.

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366 MAIN STREET,

Watches,
Diamonds,
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SOLID SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE

SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES.

366 Main St., Corner Central St.

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

For the next Thirty Days we shall offer

EXTRA INDUCEMENTS

—IN—

MEN'S, BOYS' & CHILDREN'S

OVER COATS CAPE AND ULSTERS.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

A. R. CHILTON,

FIRST-CLASS

PROVISIONS.

TELEPHONE 22-3.

7 LAUREL ST.

INFANTS' FOOD!

Large assortment,

Every kind that's made,

AT BOTTOM PRICES.

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

Furniture!

Ranges!

Carpets!

Crockery!

GATELY & CO.

50 Day Street.

Whispers and Rumors.

The semi-annual examinations for positions in the Boston postal service are to be continued all the week at the post office building. Civil service examinations sometimes develop amusing things. In Brooklyn the other day a would-be policeman was asked who was president of the U. S. His written reply was "James G. Blaine." He named Grover Hill as governor of New York and Hugh Grand as mayor. So much for imported intelligence (?).

Theatres are doing lively business, with more in anticipation. "Ship Ahoy!" has anchored at the landing of "Popular Favor" and the gang plank has been run out and made fast so that the public may examine the craft and her occupants. She has a merry crew and whether "it ever occurred to you" or not, these are the sort of people the public look for nowadays. "Cleopatra," at the Hollis, is a success in many ways and because of the pluck of our only Fanny, in rising above the great disaster by fire, we have all been to see and applaud. As a spectacle it is magnificent, as a faithful portrayal of the traditional serpent of the Nile, it is a failure. Speaking of serpents, if anyone has a prejudice to seeing snakes, that display on Cleopatra's bosom will surely set the nerves jumping. We hear that his snakeship has an understudy, manufactured in Japan, and consequently the management need not tolerate any big head on his part. A slave, a storm, a snake are the alliterative stars of this gorgeous production, while Miss Davenport is a picture and plays it sardou-like and perfectly.

Here is something too good to keep! Col. Olin, on leaving the Custom House to accept the position under Governor Russell, was recently presented by friends there with an Encyclopædia. A day or two later he entered a well-known restaurant for lunch, and the table girl in attendance of whom he had taken a little notice, (being a daily habitue,) congratulated him on receiving the gift, also said, "Queer thing to give you though, you can't ride it this winter." Marion Howard.

One of the principal topics of conversation this week is the action of the mayor Tuesday evening. He dropped five policemen and appointed five new men in their places, and people are very free in commenting upon the course. Not a few are inclined to think that the mayor has some information which has not been given to the public, and which amply justifies his action, while others very freely attribute it to other causes. However that may be, there seems to be very general regret that Officer Battles is among the unfortunate ones. We have confidence in the mayor's ability and honesty of purpose, but hoped to see Mr. Battles re-appointed on the force. He has been on day duty so long that it would seem the public would have freely expressed themselves had he been guilty of any grave misdemeanor.

At an academy in Maine recently a boy was reciting his Virgil lesson, in which occurs the sentence, "Facillis descens us Averni" etc. His translation was as follows, "It is very easy to go to Avernus, but the hell of it is to get back."

Have you a Cough or Cold?

—TRY OUR—

CHERRY LAUREL COUGH BALSAM

It will cure you.

Prices: 25 and 40 cts.

Have you Rough or Chapped Hands?

Maloon's Amandine

Will make them as soft as a baby's.

Large bottles, 25 cts.

T. S. MALOON & CO.,

THE DRUGGISTS

174 Main St., Fitchburg.

ECONOMY IN FUEL

BY THE USE OF THE

GAS CO'S PREPARED

COKE!

The Gas Company now has

PREPARED COKE ON HAND.

A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.

A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

Some wag wittingly describes the Koch method as "setting a bacillus to catch a bacillus."

Strawberries are now selling for $3.50 a box in New York. Another instance of the ridiculous results the passage of the McKinley bill gives us.

Another one of Brigham Young's wives has gone the way of all the earth. Now only seven sad-eyed widows mourn for their departed lord.

A Chicago man named McGinty wanted his name changed to that of his bride at his marriage ceremony. When told that he could have his name changed at any time he seemed satisfied.

A distinguished scientist says that "man, the highest order of animals, is related to the oyster or clam, which represents the lowest." This probably accounts for the saying: "Don't be a clam."

Cigarette boxes are no longer to contain picture cards and coupons, hence the small boy is left all adrift on such card collecting; a mania that has prevailed to a wonderful extent hereabouts for a few years past.

Holyoke is walking around herself to see how she looks because her Y. M. C. A. building fund amounts to $56,000. Who says Fitchburg has no such fund, the last we heard of it was $19.20 and still rising.

A Taunton paper says: "A remarkable fact about the month of January was that not a single alarm of fire was sounded during the entire month. The last alarm was heard December 21th, 1890, and the new year has been a quiet one for the fire boys." That beats Fitchburg. Taunton boys will get out of practice.

A young woman in Decatur, Ill., who had completely lost the bridge of her nose by decay of the bones has had it replaced by pieces of cat's ribs, and the slight scar is almost invisible. If there are any ladies in this city suffering in the same manner, we know where there are some cats that can be spared for the operation.

George M. Bradley, the first patient in this country to receive Dr. Koch's lymph inoculation, recently died at New Haven, and the son of Prof Blake, another lymph patient, is at the point of death. Bradley was a man but little over thirty years of age, and was not in an advanced stage. This will act as a drawback to the use of the lymph treatment for awhile, but that the treatment may yet be made effective is the earnest wish of thousands

If you have some money which you desire to invest, try home investments as an experiment. Instead of sending it West or South consult with the Board of Trade and see if you cannot place your money into something at home which will pay as well and be more secure than something one or two thousand miles away.

"Every cloud has a silver lining," says the Lowell *Times*. It then proceeds to demonstrate it by the following circumstantial evidence: "The other day an Augusta, Me., man's water pipe froze up. That night a fire caught in the kitchen. The flames warmed up the frozen pipes, which burst and extinguished the fire before any one had discovered it."

The Lowell *Courier* says: "The Century Dictionary, when completed, will account for 200,000 words, which beats Webster by 70,000 majority. Charley Morse of Marlboro can beat the Century Dictionary." We are inclined to think that the *Courier* will be the sickest looking courier that ever started on a journey if Charley turns his 71 ton oratorical gun on it.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.
TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.
5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,
TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.
37 School St. FITCHBURG, MASS.

BEST YET!

500 Pounds Chocolates,
17 CTS. PER LB.
FOR SATURDAY ONLY.
E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

HERBERT N. RUGG,
CONFECTIONER,
181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

Nichols & Frost.

Ladies' Black Cashmere Mittens, sizes 5 1-2 to 8, inclusive,
At 25c. a Pair.

Children's Colored and Black Cashmere Gloves, all sizes,
At 13c. a Pair.

Another Invoice of Ladies' Full Size Jersey Knit Jackets,
At 25c. Each.

20 Dozen Children's Knee Gaiters,
At 13c. a Pair.

Ladies' Long End, Hand Knit
SLEIGHING HOODS.
Brown and Black— formerly $1.25, $1.50, $1.75,
NOW $.75.

White Pearl Lace Nubias,
At $.25 each.

Nichols & Frost.

Sole Agts. for the Butterich Publishing Co.'s patterns for this vicinity.

KIMBALL & CO.

February Bargains.

Tte Greatest and Grandest of the season,

NOW READY.

Every piece of

WINTER MERCHANDISE

Must be sold this month.

Buy Now

And lay away for another Winter.

IT WILL PAY YOU

TO DO SO.

More Particulars Later.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

Whispers and Rumors.

Let's see, it was the North Adams weather-prophet, wasn't it, who said the last day of January would be the coldest day of the season? He was far from being right. Levi Beebe's prediction is that between Feb. 1 and Feb. 15 will be the most severe storm of the season, almost equal to the blizzard of 1888. We shall see what we shall see.

The Gardner *Journal* says: "The people of Fitchburg are justly indignant over the report that has gone out over the state to the effect that their new armory building is to cost only $4,140. The idea that a proud-spirited people like the Fitchburgians would accept a $4,000 shanty for an armory. The appropriation is $40,000." Try again, *Journal*. You are still out a neat little sum.

Mary Howe, the soprano, is captivating the people in the Western part of the State and it is becoming quite as fashionable to hear Mary as it formerly was to hear Jennie Lind, Nilsson and Patti in their day. Mary is expected here in a little over two weeks. A Western critic referring to her calmly observed "her tones got there, all her registers being open and in good working order."

William J. Baldwin, who was arrested at New Bedford for having an official ballot in his possession inside the voting enclosure and was fined $300, in the third district court withdrew his appeal from his sentence and the judgment was affirmed. Unless the fine is paid, Baldwin will have to serve three months. It will not pay to monkey with that kangaroo ballot system.

In the opera of "Ship Ahoy" at the Park theatre Boston, the song of "Did it Ever Occur to You?" makes a great hit. One verse commences as follows:

"The electric cars of Boston are quite unique,
Did it ever occur to you?
And sometimes they make a round trip in a week,
Did it ever occur to you?"

To substitute Fitchburg for Boston and horse for electric will give the condition of the South Fitchburg circuit at times.

"Broiled Bones" is a dish which has an odd sound. It is simply a lot of marrow bones sawed into pieces say two inches long. These pieces are sealed up at the ends with a quarter of an inch of thick paste of flour and water. Each bone is then tied up in cloth and boiled two hours. Then the cloth and paste are removed, the bones are seasoned with salt and a bit of cayenne pepper, and served on toast. Nothing could be more delicious.

It must be fun to live in the Red river region of Louisiana with new potatoes as big as one's fist, lettuce, cabbages, carrots, beets, big enough for the table, and fine ripe strawberries all growing in the open air. Life might be worth living in that latitude if the shot gun was not more prolific than even nature.

A heavy coating of ice is said to be a forerunner of a great apple year. Then look out for a fruitful harvest next fall. They are at a premium in England just now. Our neighbors across the sea have found that while oranges, bananas and all such languid fruits from tropic climes may be dispensed with and nobody miss them so very much, the hardy apple, with its firm pulp impregnated with the strong air of those northern hills, the rich flavor, which only our soil can give, is a necessity which cannot be overlooked, no matter how the prices run. And so Londoners are paying $5.50 per barrel at wholesale for our number one fruit, and will doubtless turn over more than that before the meridian of 1891 is reached.

ALFRED DOLGE

FELT SLIPPERS,

ALSO A FULL LINE OF

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS!

For Ladies and Gents.

We put the Wilson Clasp on all Lace Boots we sell, free of charge. Try them.

All Goods Warranted as represented.

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185 Main St.

BROWNELL & MASON,

PLUMBING AND HEATING,

158 MAIN ST.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

Town Talk.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

Flags are now supplied to all the school houses except those of Highland avenue and Maverick street, and now if one or two other liberal citizens will arise and say the word, flags will go up on those schools also.

There is a complaint made that the drivers of some of the city offal carts drive through the streets with the covers of the carts open instead of having them closed. This is very disagreeable to sensitive and delicate persons and ought not to be allowed.

The remarks on insurance rates made by Mr. Parker at the Merchants Association annual supper, Friday, last week, are already bearing fruit. At the last meeting of the association a committee was appointed to look into the matter of rates and report at a later meeting.

We are informed that the Heywood chair shops will start up about March 1 and that nearly all the old help will be re-engaged as far as possible. It is said that Mr. Potter will resume his old place at the desk and that Mr. Spencer will travel in the firm's interest. It is understood that cane and rattan work will be the business of the new company.

The Scotch celebration of Burns' birthday was a great success, Friday evening last, and afforded a romantic and interesting entertainment. Many people enjoy hearing these fine old Scotch songs more than all the trills and warbles of a fashionable singer. The Scotch residents never do things by halves, but always give a good long entertainment with plenty of dancing after, and this year was no exception to the rule.

The contracts have not yet been signed, but there is no doubt that the Fitchburg band will go to Cottage City again this year, thus making the fifth year in succession that the band has been engaged for that place. Last year they did not go till the middle of July. This year it is expected that the season will open fully two weeks earlier, and the band will probably go immediately after the Fourth, if not before that day.

A storekeeper says, "I wish you would say something about the custom of visiting stores and ordering things which are never called for. People call and order goods which we sometimes do not have in stock and we have to send for them. You would be surprised to know how much expense we go to sometimes on this account. I have often sent for articles which I did not have in the store because not one person in a thousand would want them, and after getting them have had them on hand for months before called for. I have now probably $50 or $60 worth of articles which were ordered in that way and have never been called for. It is quite annoying and I know you will find several other stores in the same fix."

John L. Sullivan continues to distinguish himself. While at Newark, N. J., Sullivan, as an actor, gained admission to the benevolent and protective Order of Elks, by which he is now disowned as a person unfit to associate with gentlemen, and whose conduct has brought shame and discredit upon the Order. John learns nothing by experience.

An outraged reader writes to say that if some one will slay the advertising agent for Blank's soap he will do the reading public a favor. Says this reader when I pick up the paper I see in the local column that the editor has washed his shirt with Blank's soap and I am in doubt which to pity most, the editor or his shirt. In the next column I see a joke and just as I pucker my mouth for a broad grin I discover it is an ad. for Blank's soap and an icy coldness strikes my liver pad. Then, as my eye wanders a little further I notice that an orator strikes an imposing attitude and proclaims our fish balls a fraud and delusion and finishes by eulogizing Blank's soap. I am tired of this blank'd soap question, and I feel like murdering the whole force on our standard daily when page after page is given over to Blank's blankety blanked soap. I have seen so much of it this last year that if I found my wife buying Blank's soap I would sue for a divorce, and if one of my girls ever buys a single cake I will cut her off with a shilling and leave my money to a nigger orphanage.

The announcement that the Steam Engine Company will not go to Gardner is a topic of conversation in both Gardner and Fitchburg. The people of Gardner are anything but pleased, of course, while the majority of people here are anything but displeased. That is quite natural. People here have very seriously questioned the wisdom of the change, and we question if the change of air would cure Charles Fosdick. He is not suffering from such a complaint. This is the Gardner *Journal's* view of the matter: "The contract made between the Fitchburg Steam Engine Company and the committee representing the Board of Trade was read. The committee have fulfilled their part of the contract to the letter, but it appears that the Fitchburg Steam Engine Company have concluded to go back on their agreement and break the contract, and have announced their purpose to that effect. The only excuse offered for this action is the sickness of Charles Fosdick, superintendent of the steam engine works. It seems to us that the sickness of Mr. Fosdick would furnish an additional reason why they should adhere to their agreement and come to Gardner, where the clear and bracing air would prove a valuable tonic, and health and strength would be quickly restored."

The seventh annual party of the Wednesday club of Christ church adds another to its list of successes. The arrangements were excellent in every detail and the evening's entertainment was all that could be wished for, except the Clef quartette. Least said of the Clefs is best said. Perhaps they thought Fitchburg knew nothing about singing, but the quartette knows better now. The Clefs made a mistake in coming until they had had a few rehearsals.

"The Fairies' Well," presented by W. H. Powers' Company at the opera house last Thursday evening, deserved a larger audience. The play is a picturesque story of Irish life and love, and is sparkling with fun from beginning to end. Carroll Johnson, as the Irish lad, was perfect, acting always with spirit and ease. As the conventional villain of Irish drama, Thos. L. Coleman was more than equal to the part, his work being most effective. Little Ollie, the child, added charm to a very pleasing performance.

OPERA HOUSE.

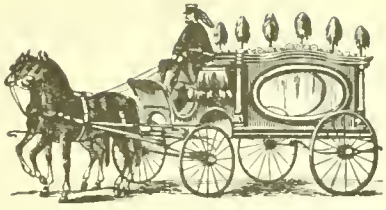
TWO NIGHTS,

Wednesday and Thursday,

Feb. 11 and 12.

The Great Metropolis.

Produced on an elaborate scale.



H. A. LeSure. F. D. LeSure.

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46 Day St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

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MEN'S AND BOYS'

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

SQUARE DEALING, ONE PRICE

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,

187 MAIN ST.

EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

Jottings by the Way.

March 5 appears to be the date fixed for Mrs. J. C. Howard's juvenile ball, at city hall.

The children's annual party of the Universalist church will be held at city hall, March 6.

Post 19, G. A. R., has secured ex-Governor Q. A. Brackett for Memorial day orator.

On March 20, "The Drummer Boy" or "The Battle of Shiloh," a war drama will be presented at city hall, under the auspices of Post 19, G. A. R.

Mr. C. S. Perry Secretary of the United States Masonic Accident Association of this city expects to go West and South next week for the Association.

The annual coffee party of St. Vincent de Paul society will be given in city hall, Monday evening. It has a good object and deserves substantial support.

The Sons of St George will observe their usual custom of having a dance at G. A. R. hall, on Tuesday evening next. Shrove Tuesday is known among our British fellow citizens as Pancake Tuesday.

The Boston Regalia company, which will furnish the banner in Town Talk's contest, is furnishing quite a number of Knights Templar uniforms for prominent Freemasons in this city and vicinity.

A party of Masons will visit Leominster, Tuesday evening next, to witness the work of the third degree. Masons desirous of joining the party are requested to notify Messrs. Oldfield or Ogden before Tuesday morning.

Mr. Macy has made a contract for a large supply of bananas, and his annual sale commences tonight. About two car loads make the first instalment. E. J. Macy will be absent on his Jamaica trip about a month.

In connection with the resignation of Rev. W. H. Pierson pastor of the Unitarian church the names of Rev. H. C. Parker of Woburn and Rev. Mr. Brooks of Brockton are mentioned as probable candidates for the vacant pulpit.

Jerusalem Commandery will have a pleasant reception on Feb. 20. The reception and social hour will be from 7 to 8 o'clock, entertainment from 8 to 9. Supper will then be served, followed by daneing. Cook of Boston will be the caterer. A phonograph will be one feature of the entertainment and probably the High School quartette another. It will probably be the great Masonic event of the season.

H. W. Ayer of the city steam laundry has commenced the toilet supply service in vogue in New York and other large cities. A towel rack, long towel, four hand towels, comb, brush, glass and soap is supplied and the towels changed every week for the moderate sum of $1 per month.

It is said by rigid church people of the Roman Catholic and Episcopalian denominations that Lent was not strictly observed last year, but that it will be this year and the small number of entertainments etc., announced for city hall during this season seems to indicate that such is the intention.

In ancient times there was in the far away East a man named Noah. He became notorious through his connection with an ark. In modern times we have a Noah in this great west. He is about to move a wooden house. Now, please don't get up and say something about Noah Jackson and his ark.

At the annual meeting of the Windsor club Monday evening last the following officers were elected: President, R. D. Gould; vice-president, H. P. Tyrrell; secretary, B. L. Patch. The treasurer's report was not presented at this meeting and the election of treasurer was postponed. The club's annual supper will be given Monday evening next, Dill of Waltham being the caterer.

E. M. Read has been urged to engage in the confectionery and catering business and has now got the studying cap on. His candies, ice creams, frozen puddings, coffee etc. have given him quite a reputation and he has had several invitations to do catering. The Odd Fellows invited him to cater for them, Wednesday evening next, but a pressure of other business deterred him from undertaking the work.

The Fitchburg Gas and Electric Light Company's inside construction department is very busy at present wiring buildings for electric lights, etc., in this city and Leominster. The department has been working in Leominster for the past three weeks. The company has taken a contract to wire Merriam & Hall's new furniture factory at North Leominster for electric lights, besides other jobs at Leominster centre.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∵ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

As predicted the Merchants' Association's annual supper was a great success, and without question the most enjoyable yet given. The attendance was even greater than expected, and the arrangements were so admirably planned that all was over before the clock struck eleven. The speaking was to the point and interesting from the fact that those called upon, with two or three exceptions, were previously warned to expect a call and therefore prepared accordingly. There was a continuous flow of wit from beginning to close. Some of the hits were especially good. The High School quartette made a most favorable impression, and Mr. Goodrich's poem kept the audience in a roar. I think every one will admit that the Merchants' Association made a most favorable impression on all present.

There was some talk before the supper was given that the ladies ought to be invited, but the suggestion was not entertained for several reasons. Perhaps this might be done next year and the supper could be served in city hall instead of G. A. R. hall. One of the great difficulties experienced every year is the sale of tickets. A great many put off the purchase until the last moment and then comes a rush. If the association voted to include the ladies this would mean that at least 300 persons must be provided for and the expense would be considerable. The caterer would want to know pretty near how many to provide for, and unless there was a good guarantee that nearly every member would go and take his lady, the committe would hardly feel like guaranteeing some $300 or $400 to the caterer, but this year's supper was so pleasant that the experiment may be tried next year.

As it is now decided that the Steam Engine Company will remain in this city, the question will arise, what is the company going to do for more room if the present location is retained? One of the reasons assigned for leaving was the want of accommodation. Perhaps the company will take the offer made by Mr. Daniels some time ago, if it is renewed, and thus get over the difficulty, or perhaps Mr. Belding will build that new shop he has often talked of building so that the Steam Engine Company can use the premises now used by him. If Mr. Belding does not desire to build perhaps he might be able to make arrangements with the Putnam Machine Company to rent or sell him the premises occupied by the tool department on Walnut street. I do not know that this building is either to rent or for sale, but if it could be taken for that purpose it would make a good shoe shop. Anyhow, if more room is all the Steam Engine Company wants it is foolishness to allow any tempting offers to be made to the company to go elsewhere. Now is the time to take this into consideration.

While flitting around "Back Bay" a few days ago I was struck with the number of wooden buildings there. I know this is a delicate subject for a raven to claw over, but it seems to be my misfortune to flit into things the other literary birds do not touch. From Cushing's brick block to the Wixon block is a line of property, which, if once well on fire and a good wind prevailing, would go up in smoke in spite of all fire departments within 40 miles. Suppose one of these wooden structures at the rear of this property caught fire during the night, probably the first information of the fact would be the blaze appearing above the roof which some midnight pedestrian or policeman would notice. These buildings, some old and dry and like tinder and nearly all full of highly inflammable materials, would burn so fiercely that the firemen would be driven out of the narrow street in short time—and then what? In a very little while the fire would spread over to the other side, C. H. Doten's premises, Chipman & Philbrook's, Kimball & Co's. and the "marble" front of the opera house block would simply prove a glorious revel for the fire fiend. If a fire got under good headway in the latter named premises, especially at night, the results would in all probability be the same. If a brisk wind prevailed the smoke would choke up Main street so that no firemen could live in it and once driven out—it would be destruction to the property named. I do not wish to excite alarm; I simply want to ask if this wooden building craze has not gone far enough in this particular section.

Roes Paven.

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THE HIGH SCHOOL CONTEST.

The competitive essays for the prize of a Gold Watch to be awarded Feb. 7, 1891.

A FEW CHANGES.

While passing up Main St., in the year 1920, I paused in admiration before a large brown stone building situated between Fox and Oliver streets. Looking up I saw carved in large letters "Young Men's Christian Association Building."

I being a comparative stranger, gladly availed myself of the opportunity of entering the place. Going in I was met by a young man, who conducted me down the hall to a small reception-room, where I made the acquaintance of the secretary of the association. In my conversation with him I learned many important facts respecting the city, and the association he represented.

About thirty years ago the land on which the building now stands was purchased. Two years later, enlargements and improvements were made upon the buildings then occupying the place.

Fifteen years afterwards the association found that they had money enough in the treasury to insure success in erecting a larger and more convenient building.

Accordingly their plans were laid with great care and moderation. Contracts were made for lumber, granite, stone, and all the material required for putting up a fine structure. Slowly but surely the massive pillars and timbers arose, and at last one of the finest edifices Fitchburg has yet seen was completed.

The interior of this building corresponds with its outward appearance. Entering through the large entrance way, you find yourself in a large hall, with elegantly furnished parlors on both sides. Passing on up the wide stair-case, you enter an upper hall. Turning to your right you open a door that leads into a medium-sized room; the walls of which are lined with books.

On examining the list of volumes, you find many of the writings of the most prominent authors of the day. Scientific works, histories, works of art and fiction. In fact anything that the most exacting mind would demand.

Leading out of the library is the reading-room. Here you may sit down in some comfortable chair, with your book, and read or study, as pleases you best.

Especial attention has been made in selecting authors and writings that will interest the Scotch, and one room has been set apart for their own exclusive use. Of course you know that there has been a great increase in our Scotch population since the introduction of the Glasgow Manufacturing Company, in 1892. Not only has the Scotch population increased, but American citizens have been added to the census of the city.

Leaving the Scotch apartment and ascending to the third story, you enter a large room, which you soon discover to be a gymnasium. The same atmosphere of care and fitness is breathed here, as in the other rooms that have been visited. Traversing its length we find nothing left out that should be present in furnishing the apartment.

On the other side of the hall are numerous class rooms. Classes in stenography and typewriting, German and French, and music, both vocal and instrumental, are formed and taught here.

Descending the stairs we pause on the second landing, and open a door which we have not noticed before. This we perceive is a large audience room, with seats for 1500 people.

Passing on down the stairs, we again enter the street, and for the first time are made aware of the fact that part of the building has been reserved for mercantile purposes. The association thus receiving a nice little income with which to carry on its work.

All over the city I find many changes. New blocks have been erected; large stores have taken the place of the smaller ones; new streets have been laid out, and numerous school buildings are scattered over the city.

Observing crowds of people passing in and out of a large building, I suddenly remembered that it was election day. I was somewhat surprised to see women as well as men passing through the doors. Entering the place I found a large hall, which I should judge would hold 3000 people.

Turning my steps in the direction of the house of an old friend, what was my astonishment to find an entire change in the appearance of the street. Not knowing what else to do I paused and thus reasoned with myself.

Fitchburg is no longer the little place it used to be, but is a great and flourishing manufacturing and commercial city, taking its place among the first cities of the United States. It has a population that will hold its own against nearly any one of the cities, and is alive with busy throngs of people of many nations.

Following a party of young people I was led to a place which at first I thought was an enchanted spot, but on further examination proved to be a park. After

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Do you want to get the most that you can for a dollar?
Do you want that dollar to buy not only the most but the best?
IF SO
Purchase your Clothing, Hats, and furnishings of
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spending half an hour here, I came to the conclusion that in order to see the whole of this beautiful place at an advantage I must begin at an earlier hour.

I then thought I would visit my favorite resort of old Rollstone. I went by the way of Putnam and Laurel streets, and so on around to the foot of the hill. On coming to the Nashua I was pleased to be able to cross it on a bridge that did not creak at every step, and shake in such a manner that you did not know whether you would reach the other side, or take a bath in the river. Also you were not liable to be precipitated downward by an uneven plank, or fall through a hole that has not been mended.

Reaching the top of Rollstone, I ascended to the highest point, the tower of the observatory, and standing there looked off over the surrounding hills, and the city below, with it's numberless buildings, many of which owe the laying of their corner stones, and others the erection of their walls, to this elevation of land so richly supplied with some of the richest productions of nature.

As I continued to gaze, the last rays of the setting sun shone over it like a benediction of light, and seemed to say, "Work on thou city of Fitchburg, thou hast overcome many things, and thou art able to overcome many more." Then old Sol sank slowly beyond the horizon. As he disappeared from view, and only a mass of fleecy clouds lined with golden light remained to tell where he had once been, I could hear the faint whirring of the mills, softened by the distance, borne to me by the breeze.

Thus I left my native city, and though I may never visit it again, I shall ever think of it as I last saw it from the tower of Rollstone. ECILA.

THE INFLUENCE OF THE FLAG ON OUR SCHOOL-HOUSES.

The custom of having the national flag wave over the public schools has an important influence upon all, and, as almost every school of Fitchburg has a flag, there must be some lessons taught by them here. Nothing in particular has been said of this influence, or how it will benefit the city, and it is a subject of local interest, that ought not to be passed by without some consideration.

First, what particular sources of influence do our flags have? All who are interested in local affairs know how our flags were so kindly presented by Post 19, G. A. R. Coming from them, our flags have the best of reasons why they should influence. In the Civil War men went from here to help defend their country under this same flag; now they, or rather those left of their ranks, desire to have the flag, which meant so much to them, mean as much to the rising generations. To aid in doing this they have given the flags to our schools. We who live in the time of peace cannot fully realize what it was for these men to leave their homes, to go to war, but we are influenced by what they have done, especially by their recent gift to the schools.

After our flags had been given, they were delayed from waving over the schools by the want of flag-staffs. One or two were given by individuals, but at last the Ladies' Union Aid Society procured them by means of the "Flag-staff Festival." In this act, in what the Grand Army and all, who have manifested an interest in our flags, have done, lie the most important sources of influence.

Next, whom do our flags influence? As they wave over the school-houses, their direct influence is upon the schools; first upon the teachers, second upon the pupils. In connection with the flag, those attending school would be divided into two classes, Americans and foreigners. The flags influence both classes, although in a different way, and through them the influence extends to their homes. These homes make up our city, so that indirectly the flags influence Fitchburg as a whole.

Having seen why and whom our flags influence, what they influence would be the next division. The flags were given to the schools in order that they might influence that same patriotic spirit with which they were given; therefore patriotism is what our flags influence. It will enable the teachers to teach with more interest and meaning the history of both country and flag.

The influence upon those attending school can be shown more plainly by taking it upon the two classes mentioned before. The influence upon foreigners is an important one for, as Fitchburg increases in population, so will the number of those in our schools. Now, if these grow up under the influence of the national flag, they will become as true American citizens as all others.

The influence upon the Americans can be read in the flag itself. The 13 stripes influence the freedom and independence, which the first 13 states obtained for us; the 42 stars influence the prosperity and unity of our nation now; then the colors have their influence for "Country, God, and Right," as has been seen in the two principal wars of our country.

Another thing, that the flags will in-

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All Cloth Jackets, former prices $7.50 to $10, closing price $5.

We have about 40 Newmarkets we shall sell at just one-half former prices.

Special Bargains in every department of our store.

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fluence, is the keeping of our national, holidays as they have been in former years. The High School will decorate the soldiers monument on Memorial Day, as has been their custom, with more patriotic zeal in behalf of the flag, which now waves over the school-house, and all the schools will have the same sentiment on their part.

Finally, how is the influence to benefit Fitchburg? In a very few years pupils of our schools will assume higher duties, duties for which an education is needed, but also an interest in the welfare of country and city. Our city government must come from their number sometime and, since they are influenced by the flags, the city will be benefited through them.

The city will be benefited in other ways, but all will acknowledge that, with such fine prospects as Fitchburg has, with such good public schools, and with them under the flag of our Union, our city can not help but become more prosperous.

A COFFEE SALOON IN FITCHBURG.

From the earliest period of time, down to the present date, spirituous liquors have played an important part in the history of the world. In the Bible, we find liquor had its place there, in the lives of Biblical characters, government of the people and prosperity of the cities. It was then as it is now, one of the evils that ruin men, led to the destruction of government and downfall of cities.

From Bible times down to the present age, we can trace along in the world's history and see what a prominent place liquor holds in it.

It is the present time, that interests us the most and here we see, and know that liquor has not surrendered the power that it gained so long ago.

"The Use, Sale and Abuse of Liquor," is one of the few topics that does not wear out. It is taken and treated in long discourses, first by one and then another person, yet they do not end the subject and it stands an always ready topic for toasts, tracts and speeches. Why is this so? Because liquor has not laid down its arms and surrendered. It still has a throne and subjects in almost every part of the globe. While this state of affairs exists it will not surrender. Here in our own city it has a small army and several visiting places.

In the mayor's inaugural address, of the four local topics he speaks upon, what one received so many people's opinions as that, "The Sale of Liquor?"

If the mayor succeeds in his enforcement of the liquor laws and carries out his plans on this question as he gave them in his address, we shall have only the legal sale of liquor.

If we have only the legal sale of liquor, and that in only a few public places, we should in one respect be satisfied, as all the mayor and city fathers can do for prohibition at the present time is to keep liquor as far inside its legal boundaries as they have a right to do.

Unless something comes to arouse the minds of the people and change the characters of many, these legal laws will never be small enough to entirely stop the sale of liquor. As long as liquor is manufactured it will be sold to some extent, and so long as the characters of many men are as they are now liquor will be made.

We shall have to wait patiently for that great something to come powerful enough to prevent the manufacture of liquor. When this is done we may also expect the adoption of the Bellemy scheme.

As the time seems far off before these things are done,

> Let us then be up and doing,
> With a heart for any fate,
> Still achieving, still pursuing,
> Learn to labor and to wait.

So let us try to do what we can to stop the drinking of liquor after it has been made. Would not a coffee saloon in our city aid a little in stopping the drinking of liquor?

There are many gentlemen in our city who are strong advocates of prohibition. Would it not be a good plan for them to form a co-operation for the starting of a coffee saloon?

Here before us, hanging on the wall of imagination, is a picture of a saloon in Fitchburg at a future date, but it is covered with a veiling. To those who are earnestly working for the temperance cause is given the right to remove the covering. It is removed, and what do we see?

A large, plain building situated on Main street, on the front of which, formed by the bricks, is the word "Saloon," and below the words "Given to the City of Fitchburg for the Temperance Cause," over the door the word "Welcome." The building is brilliantly lighted, the curtains drawn back from the windows so that the light may be seen at quite a distance. By the sidewalks, in front, are several hitching posts, and to these are tied many country teams, while beside them stand job-wagons, hacks, etc. Many people are going in and out, some of whom we did not think would ever visit a saloon, but as they appear none the worse for their visit we look again and see others whom, when Mayor Graves was elected, we were afraid would spend their evenings in kitchens. Many of the people who have gone in are standing before the bar drinking or waiting for milk, while others are drinking from mugs. The liquid which is in them we cannot see, but by the odor which is wafted to us from the picture we know that it is coffee. We do not see any one paying for their drinks, although some drop money into a bank that is near the bar. We look at the picture and say, "Unless there is enough left in the bank, where does the money come from that supports this?" The answer comes, "From the temperance people of Fitchburg." Those who were not before the bar are sitting around tables talking, reading or playing games. All seem to be passing the evening pleasantly.

We turn from the picture and look out on the street, expecting to see the coffee saloon, but instead we see coming up the street a man who looks as though he had been drinking something besides coffee. On seeing this we remember there is no coffee saloon to go to, and we turn away with the question on our lips, "Why not have one?" and to all in Fitchburg should be asked the question, "Why not?"

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Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

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Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter

FEBRUARY 7, 1891.

The city of Lowell grants liquor licenses to each 1000 of the population, but the cry goes forth "more rum! more rum!" the city council lends a willing ear to the cry and appoints a committee to visit the state-house to urge the Legislature to allow the issuing of licenses to each 500 of the population instead of 1000 as at present. If the request is granted Lowell will have a saloon to every 125 male adults, which even the boozers must agree is certainly enough for any community. And what a beautiful advertisement for Lowell. The press of this broad land chronicles the fact and the whole country will watch the result with interest. Foreign manufacturers and new industries seeking a location will hardly be impressed in Lowell's favor. Not long since several manufacturers visited that city with a view of locating there, how they will view this state of affairs we know not, but think more sober communities will be preferred. Our city government is not a model of perfection, but such an idea would not be entertained here for a moment. We cannot think but that the change, if made, will somewhat embarrass the Lowell Board of Trade.

* * *

The essays for the High school gold watch contest are all in and have been submitted to the judges. The result will be announced next Saturday and the watch handed over to the winner a day or two later. In connection with this we wish to say a few words in relation to the contest. The pupils have done very well indeed, some of the essays being exceptionally good. In only a few instances have the conditions of the contest been disregarded. A few contestants have written on both sides of the paper, and a few others have chosen subjects which it is doubtful, in our opinion, if they will be considered local. The total number of contributions received for the contest is 33, and only four of the contestants have sent in two essays. The judges are of opinion that it has awakened much interest in the school, and has been beneficial to all the pupils whether they have tried for the prize or not. It is suggested that more essays would have been submitted had the pupils not been confined to local subjects. We contemplate having another contest in the near future, and the conditions next time will give the pupils choice of their own subjects.

* * *

Town Talk is just about six months' old, and seems to be growing in public favor every week. Of this we are satisfied, because when any mishap or forgetfulness makes a delay in the delivery of the paper to subscribers there is a general call for it from all sides. The circulation, while not near what we hope to make it before another winter, is remarkably good for a young paper, and averages at present about 1,300 copies weekly. These are not fictitious figures, but represent the *actual* circulation. This week we shall add about 100 more, and, judging by the demand for the past two weeks, before March 1st we shall have a bona fide circulation of 1500 copies. We should be glad to announce that the circulation averaged 2,000 a week, and we hope to be able to *truthfully* say this when the paper is a year old. With every respect to our contemporaries we believe that as a good advertising medium it is equal to anything in the city, and the numerous letters we receive prove that it is also a paper of some influence.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,

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ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE
Y. M. C. A.
POPULAR COURSE
—OF—
ENTERTAINMENTS
AT CITY HALL.

The Association now presents with a great degree of satisfaction and confidence, the announcement of their Fifth Popular Course. The appreciation of this department of the Y. M. C. A. work by the public, and also by the membership, has been manifested during the past two seasons by the most liberal patronage and support. The committee in charge therefore feel like reciprocating in the matter, and have contracted for some of the very best talent in the field. A perusal of the list will be sufficient proof of the fact.

THURSDAY, FEB. 19,

LECTURE

—BY—

EX-GOV. WILL CUMBACK,

OF INDIANA.

Subject:—"The Common Man."

FRIDAY, MAR. 13.

CONCERT

BY THE

Temple Male Quartette

OF BOSTON,

ASSISTED BY

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MISS LUCIA MEAD PRIEST, Reader.

COURSE TICKET, RESERVED SEAT, $1.50.
SINGLE TICKETS, - 25 CENTS.
RESERVED SEAT, - 35 CENTS.

Members of the Association can obtain tickets of admission to the course free on application to the General Secretary. Reserved Seats 50 cents extra. Course Tickets are now on sale by members and by the General Secretary at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms; also by Macurda & Sawyer and J. E. Thompson.

☞ The committee feel that after presenting such an array of talent, so well known for marked ability, that it is perfectly absurd to urge the public to "Pack the House," "Crowd the House," or "Make it Standing Room Only," for

"EVERYBODY IS GOING THIS YEAR."

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$7.00.
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LACKAWANNA PEA,
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WALL PAPERS,

MOULDINGS,

Window Shades, &c.

Window Shades made and hung to order.

GEO. Z. PAGE

359 MAIN STREET.

PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES.

No. 46 was very generally recognized by our older readers as A. P. Kimball. No. 47 was meant as a description of Nat Cowdin, but very few have recognized him from the description.

I cannot describe No. 48 very well, but I can assure all that if you once heard his laugh you would for ever recognize it, no matter if you heard it in darkest Africa. When he tells a story and the laughing part arrives his own laugh joins in with the rest and *that* generally adds a little zest to the story. He can tell a good story at any time, his supply seems to be inexhaustible and he always has one applicable to the gathering in which he finds himself. There is one class of stories that he will not tell, however, fishing stories, that is he will not tell where he catches his fish. He will tell you the name of some lake or pond, but it beats the deuce to find it on the map. He is quite a good catch, but you will not often see his name in the papers although sometimes you will see something about "the man with no record." "That's him," as the boys put it occasionally. He is a Fitchburg "boy" and quite a boy too. When he was 20 years old he joined the military service, went to war and made quite a record too. Since the war he has been connected with the railroad nearly all his time. Before the war when he was quite a young fellow his dog, fishing rod and gun hardly ever left his hands and he is quite a Nimrod even to this day. His age? Well, about 50, well built, light complexion and a little careless about matters of dress. His name is ——.

Have you ever seen that screaming farce comedy, by Charles H. Hoyt, called "A Rag Baby?" If so, do you remember that original character, the life of the play, called "Old Sport?" Well, No. 49 is a good parallel to that character, although in a somewhat different direction, for while "Old Sport" was enthusiastic over the manly art of self-defense, the subject of this sketch has acquired a reputation as a hunter and fisherman of no little skill. Many trophies of his hunting expeditions have hung in front of the local markets on more than one occasion, and at the shooting matches of the Fitchburg Gun Club he has made scores as high as any of them. He is a lover of base ball, and as a member of the fat men's ball nine he was a strong card in several of those amusing games. But, besides being an ardent sportsman, No. 49 is a leading young business man. Some few years ago he followed the occupation of a drug clerk, but left that business to take a partnership in another line of trade, later becoming interested also in still another kind of business of a substantial (or hard) nature. Personally, No. 49 is a large, hearty-looking sort of a man. One of his characteristics is, when talking business with a man, to assume a bluff and somewhat intimidating manner which, however, soon relapses into his naturally jovial disposition after a few pacificatory remarks from the other man. You may see him almost any day, not far from the Fitchburg hotel. Come to think of it, Nos. 48 and 49 are two old sports, two old cronies and two jolly good fellows. Who is No. 49?

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248 MAIN STREET,

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A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER III.

THE WARFIELD SECRET.

Edward Warfield was at first somewhat startled to find the uncanny figure of Mr. Fenlow so near him. It seemed as though the man must have transported himself thither upon those vampire-like wings, for he was certainly invisible but an instant before.

Banishing this unreal impression, Warfield opened the room door and stepped back for Fenlow to enter. The other silently complied and paused just within. With a deliberateness which looked almost malicious Warfield closed and locked the door, and then confronted his visitor with a faint smile as though he would have said, "Now we will see if you have any marvelous power by whose aid you can leave this room till I choose to let you."

What he did say was a curt request to sit down, but Fenlow preferred to stand, perhaps because he presented a more uncanny aspect in that position.

"I had a feeling, Mr. Warfield," he began in his peculiar, velvety tones, "that you in some way ascribed your brother's misfortunes to my—our—presence here."

"I don't know why you should have that feeling from anything I have said," the other returned.

"It is not from anything spoken. Perhaps I am over-sensitive. I feel myself to be under great obligations to your brother James. He has been very kind."

"I presume he has acted freely and I'm not disposed to criticise his charitable impulses."

"I beg pardon," said Fenlow quickly, "but there is no charity about it. If you please, I am not—we are not—so dependent as that. Your brother has shown confidence in me—in us—and I feel grateful for his hospitality."

"All of which is nothing to me," said Warfield coldly.

"Of course not. I only wish to feel that you did not blame me—us—unduly for any trouble which your brother has brought upon himself."

"So he has brought it upon himself?" Warfield quickly asked.

"I assume so—it is generally that way. If one might have perfect wisdom he need never be unfortunate. Misfortunes are usually natural consequences rather than Providential visitations."

"I agree with you, Mr. Fenlow."

"Perhaps your brother has not had opportunity yet to tell you about his affairs, and if not I feared that you might form opinions beforehand in some degree reflecting on me—on us."

"I have formed no opinions either way as yet."

"Very well. As I said before, I—we—are very sensitive, perhaps more so than the case calls for."

"The case calls for no feeling in the matter if you are honest, and I would not question that. I hardly see what all this talk is about, especially the air of secrecy on your part. It would have looked better for you to say what you have to say in my brother's presence since I have no confidence in you which doesn't belong also to him. We are his guests. Remember that."

"Certainly, certainly, Mr. Warfield. I beg pardon, but it seems to me that you are, as one might vulgarly put it, 'touchy' in the matter."

Fenlow softened this remark by a velvety laugh, which was accompanied by a swaying of the black vampire wings.

Warfield found his self-control taxed to the utmost. He could bully railway porters or bluster even at long-suffering conductors and ticket sellers, but socially he prided himself upon the power of holding his irascible temper in check.

"Had you finished your errand, Mr. Fenlow?" he asked.

"Yes, or nearly. Just a word more, which I presume you will not care to discuss tonight, only it would be well for you to know about it. Your brother will not be likely to tell you everything about his difficulty. Indeed, he intimated to me that he should not do so. In other words, your brother has a secret it was my—our—fortune to become possessed of, perhaps contrary to his wishes, yet quite inadvertently on my—on our—part."

Edward Warfield, a moment before, was ready to get this vampire-like apparition out of the room on any terms, but the other's last remark awakened his curiosity, besides sharpening the sting of resentment toward the speaker.

He felt that James intended to keep something back after sending to him for assistance. He felt that in being called hither in this manner he was entitled to know the entire details concerning the

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trouble, and that for it to be kept from him and in any measure intrusted to Fenlow and his mystical daughter was a gratuitous injustice.

"You say that James told you he should not tell me the whole story?" Warfield demanded, looking Fenlow squarely in the eye.

The latter did not allow his own gaze to drop under that of the other. In truth, Mr. Fenlow had a certain persistency of his own when it came to looking an antagonist out of countenance. There was nothing egressive in his gaze, but it simply held its ground without flinching.

"He intimated to me, I say," Fenlow answered, "that in his judgment nothing would be gained by going into details with you."

"That is another thing. He will tell me the main facts and he knows I'm not a man to expect anything more."

"You misunderstand me. It was not my intention to put the matter so bluntly, but I see that you will not accept intimations."

"I will accept nothing but the bald facts," said Warfield sharply.

"Very well. It isn't my wish to make trouble between brothers, but—"

"Then why do you say anything about it?"

"Because you ask me to."

"I didn't ask it in the first place. I sought no interview with you."

"Then I will say no more. As I have stated, I—we—"

"Never mind about 'I' or 'we,' Mr. Fenlow. You would have been more discreet had you refrained from meddling with this affair in any way, but you have said too much to me now to refuse to say more. I shall permit no innuendo against my brother to stand unexplained. You had a purpose in speaking of it and I shall insist upon knowing what you mean."

An unpleasant expression flashed across the face of Mr. Fenlow. There was a deal of fierceness in it, cloaked in a faint smile that did not deaden the gleam of his eyes.

"You have the right to insist upon anything you choose, Mr. Warfield," he said, and then paused as though he intended to learn how the insistence would be enforced. After the pause he went on:

"I saw you looking at your brother rather sharply after you first came in. I think you once remarked that he was not looking quite well."

Warfield made no reply, but simply waited for the other to proceed.

"Your brother, I am sorry to say," Fenlow continued, "has changed greatly since I first met him. I have watched him closely, for I felt grieved that such a noble man should lose control of himself. In other words, Mr. Warfield, your brother James has been drinking more than is good for him of late, probably on account of his other trouble."

Still Edward Warfield uttered not a syllable in reply. Fenlow waited during another impatient interval and then continued:

"What I have told you has been revealed to no one else. The chief trouble is not, of course, his intemperance. I intend to deduce no temperance moral from his example. I wished merely to picture to you the change in him; that is all."

"That is not all," Warfield exclaimed so sharply that the other drew back a little, and for the first time showing that he carried a cane. Warfield was sure that he had not used it to assist his steps in approaching the room.

"Then you wish to learn more?" Fenlow asked with a faint smile.

"Yes; what is the 'other trouble' of which you speak?"

"It is something that began before I first saw him."

"What is it?"

"Ask him. I did not promise to go so far as that."

"In other words, you come here to tattle all you have observed of my brother's private weaknesses, and to throw a deeper suspicion and significance over the facts which are too dark for utterance, and you are the recipient of his kindness, and necessarily, from the position you have held in his household, much in his confidence. You have said enough, Mr. Fenlow, and I would like to go to bed."

The other retreated to the threshold with his stealthy tread. There he paused.

"You misconstrue my purpose," he said in his mild tones.

"Then I will ask your forgiveness when I find it out."

"I wish to palliate your brother's offence, for as an offence you will regard his conduct. I come to you in his behalf. I would act as a mediator between you, for I know you will quarrel when it comes to a serious discussion."

"Did James ask you to mediate?"

"He said that there would be trouble between you when you came to investigate his affairs. He said that you would not think as he did, and that you always were like flint and steel when you came together."

"Anything more?"

"I come as his friend, and I want you to think over what I have said before you act or speak further. When you come to me in a different mood I may then think it ad-

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visable to tell you more about his secret trouble. I know he will never disclose it to you."

"It appears, then," said Warfield in a sarcastic tone, "that you have been instituted as the watch dog in my brother's household, and here is a chance for you to exercise your new function."

This last remark was called forth by a loud knock upon the porch door. It had the effect of causing Fenlow to glide away like a winged shadow, while Warfield hastily descended to admit the new comer, who, as he expected, was no other than Barker, his fat, sleepy-eyed attendant.

It had begun to rain in a gusty torrent, and the youth was dripping wet.

"You're late," said Mr. Warfield, showing him into the kitchen, which was deserted by everything animated save the tall clock and a cat. The latter was jet black, and, crouching in a dark corner, would not have been visible at all save for her luminous, yellow eyes that blinked suspiciously at Barker.

"Had to walk 'bout half the way," said the youth sinking apathetically into a chair.

"How was that?"

"Nobody there to fetch me."

"No carriages at the Fitchburg station?"

"I dunno anything about the Fitchburg station. I didn't stop there. You see—" Barker hesitated with a sheepish grin that his employer readily interpreted.

"You fell asleep and was carried by—I understand," said the latter.

"Couldn't help it. I ain't an owl to keep awake all night like some folks. I thought I'd never get here though. 'Spected to find everybody abed."

"I had given up seeing you till morning, but I'm glad you are here." Warfield shrugged his shoulders as he said this, from a cause that he could not have explained. At that moment James came in in dressing-gown and slippers. Edward gave him a penetrating look, remembering the insinuations of Fenlow. He noticed that the other was unusually pale, and thought there was a nervous restlessness about his eyes and movements which were unusual with him. That was all.

James himself saw that Barker had refreshment, while Edward waited in moody silence. Barker did not linger long, but gladly availed himself of the host's offer to show him to a bed.

"Come back before you retire," said Edward to his brother. "I want to see you."

James assented. When he returned his manner was more natural.

"We have had a good many confabs in this old kitchen, Ned," he said, dropping astride a chair facing his guest.

"Yes, but none just like the present one," was the reply.

"Probably not. I can see by your face that I'm in for it. You have made up your mind that I'm a fool and you can't harbor the conviction in silence till morning. I expected you to come to my room and hadn't undressed on that account, for I know that when you have anything on your mind you can allow no spirits to rest in peace until you have eased your own. That was always the way with you, but you won't find it so easy to pick a quarrel with me as you did when we were boys. I have learned wisdom."

"Have you?" the other asked.

"In some matters, if not in all. I have learned better than to touch fire to gunpowder or to strike nitro-glycerine with a sledge hammer. So go ahead. I will be patient, and if you strike hard I won't hit back."

Edward compressed his lips. There was a change in his brother, and a marked one. He had a feeling that it would be like attacking a defenceless animal to assail James with the severity which his own restrained feelings impelled. There was an unexpected embarrassment in introducing the subject which he knew was nearest both their hearts.

"I do not wish to do you injustice," he declared.

"I believe you, Edward, and I wish you wouldn't. You used to be hasty, but I hope you have got over that."

"I have not got over it, but I will try and hold my feelings in check. And now—to begin—why did you have the date of the auction changed?"

"To suit an expected purchaser of the estate."

"How was that?"

"The person could not attend at a later date, or something of that sort. At all events, he wanted the sale on that day and I was notional enough to humor him."

"Was he the purchaser of the property?"

"I suppose so."

"Don't you know?"

"Now hold your patience. Don't condemn or scoff at anything because you at first do not understand it."

"I have promised to control myself."

"All right, then I will throw my bombshells, so to speak. I suppose the purchaser to have been the one who asked me to hold the sale earlier than advertised, for some one certainly bid what I consider a fair figure and made the required cash payment at the time of sale, but I don't know who it was. I did not see him and no name was given."

"I was told something of this sort by the man you sent to the station for me, but I did not make much account of his tattle. He said you delivered the required cash at the sale. Was that true?"

"I placed the money in the hands of the acting clerk of the auctioneer and took a receipt for it, but the money wasn't mine."

"Where did you get it?"

"There is the mischief of it. I found the money on my dressing-table when I got up yesterday morning."

"You found the money?"

"Yes, in an envelope, and with it was inclosed this slip."

James produced a half-sheet of note paper upon which was written in a small, back-hand the following:

"To Mr. James Warfield:—

Here is cash with which to bind the sale to the successful bidder today. Take a receipt for it in your own name for the purchaser."

That was all. Edward read it deliberately through, turned it over and then read it again.

He looked penetratingly into his brother's countenance.

"Whose writing is this, James? Don't tell me you don't know, for I shall not believe you."

Then I must stand discredited, for I do not recognize the hand-writing."

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"No."

"You have seen Mr. Fenlow's and his daughter's?"

"Many times, and since receiving this I have privately compared them. There is not the slightest resemblance. It is as much like yours or my own as like theirs."

"Did you show either of them the slip?"

"I showed it to Saadi."

"What did she say?"

"It was as unfamiliar to her as it is to me."

"It appears, then, that you are the victim of something that looks on the surface like a practical joke, only the money gives it a rather substantial character. Jokes don't often bring much cash to their victims."

"It is a serious matter," said James gravely. "I expected you to treat it and me in a sense of ridicule, but you will learn in due time that ridicule won't solve the mystery."

"If you have allowed your property to pass out of your hands and into those of an unknown and unnamed purchaser, then the transaction is not worthy a moment's serious consideration. You know we had mutually agreed to keep the estate in the family name. It has been known for forty years as the Warfield Homestead, and now you have deliberately defeated my purpose of buying it, or of at least advancing money so you could retain it. That is the mystery which troubles me most, and it is one that you can fully explain if you choose to do so."

James' face flushed slightly and for a moment he was silent. Then he raised his eyes to his brother's face.

"Would you have been willing to pay me more than the real value of the property?" he asked.

"Yes."

"How much more?"

"That is a question that I would not answer in the dark. At an adequate valuation I would have cleared the property from incumbrance."

"And would you have loaned me money besides?"

"That would depend upon the character of your needs."

"Well, then, to pay a debt of honor."

Edward Warfield glared upon the speaker with a sudden show of passion.

"You have been gambling then? And that is what has ruined you? You are a bigger dolt than I took you for. Who has been the winner through your folly? Tell me that."

James rose deliberately from his chair, the flush deepening upon his cheeks.

"I knew what he would say," he said, much as if he were speaking to himself. "But he had to know." Then looking frankly at the other, he continued:

"If it is folly, as you term it, I am the loser, and that is enough for you to know, but it has not been folly, and eventually you will learn that I have lost nothing. The same beneficent influence, as I believe, that now namelessly aids me will in the end turn my temporary misfortune into greater success. You do not find me mentally depressed. I have no fears for the future. There are unconquerable powers at work in my interest."

While James spoke these strange words the brothers were looking steadily into each other's eyes, and Edward saw an earnest dignity in the other's face which well matched the calm force of his speech.

"We will go to bed, James," said Edward after a moment of impressive silence.

"So we will."

They ascended the stairs together, bade each other good night and separated at the door of Edward's chamber.

The guest slowly undressed, and was about to get into bed when he remembered that he had carried his own lighted lamp down stairs when he descended to admit Barker. The light now burned upon his table.

"I didn't bring it up!" was his sudden conviction, "and James did not come into this room. I am sure of it. How came it here?"

With a sense of baffled reason he stepped to the door and looked out into the hall. He saw nor heard nothing. Closing and locking the door he at the same moment became aware that the room was in darkness. H returned to the table, groped for the lamp but failed to find it. Then he struck a match and found that the lamp was gone.

"I have lost my wits else the old house is bewitched!" he exclaimed.

And Edward Warfield lay stark awake until dawn upon the bed where he had slept soundly so many nights.

(To be continued.)

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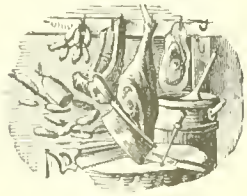

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OUR INSURANCE RATES.

At the annual Supper of the Merchants Association the president in his opening address referred to the high rates of insurance substantially as follows: "I think you will agree with me, that when we consider the cost of our city water works and with the powerful hydrant service and our efficient fire department, we have a strong argument to ask a 25 per cent reduction in our rate of fire insurance. It is known that our risks are classed and catalogued and rates fixed by the combination committee of the insurance companies, and why is it not equally important, as patrons, that our property owners combine and have a voice in this matter of rates. We are the purchasers and are paying too much relatively for the value received." This seemed to me something that I ought to look into, and hoping to find something of interest for my columns I started out.

One of the first men I addressed was E. M. Dickinson who said he agreed with Mr. Parker exactly, the insurance rates were too high and he thought our excellent water service and efficient fire department entitled us to lower rates. He could not add anything more to the statement, Mr. Parker's remarks covered the subject thoroughly.

John M. Carpenter was of the opinion that the rates were reasonably low on brick buildings, but were too high on wooden structures. He did not consider that there was much more risk on the latter than on the former. In all the fires in the city of late years where the fire department could get at the fire, not one in a wooden building had burnt out the policy. Personally he did not insure his property as high as he should if we did not have such a splendid water service and so excellent a fire department. On the whole, however, he inclined to Mr. Parker's idea that less rates ought to be accepted, especially on wooden buildings.

Henry F. Coggshall said he thought Mr. Parker's remarks were just to the point for this was something he had harped upon for a long while and had talked of it to the insurance commissioners until he was tired. He was insured for a less rate before the water system was put in than after, in fact, the rates were raised after the water service was put in and the excuse given for raising the rates was that the water did so much damage. He felt that in cities where the protection is so ample as it is here the rates ought to be less. Statistics proved that we had an excellent fire department and water works.

Enquiries among several other large property owners and men who carry heavy insurance developed nearly the same sentiments. In no instance did I find a man who carries much insurance who did not indorse Mr. Parker's sentiments, and in every instance the arguments used were the excellence of our water works and the efficiency and promptitude of our fire department. Two or three men acknowledged that the rates on some brick buildings were fair, but they thought the rates on the best class of wooden buildings were too high. In justice to both sides I give the views of some of our leading insurance agents.

Inquiries among the insurance agents and companies prove that they hold a different view of the matter.

F. C. Currier said the rates are fixed by the combination of stock companies as stated by Mr. Parker. All the best companies in this country and England are represented in this agreement, and the agents are bound to adhere to these rates. When these rates are fixed they have the endorsement of the New England exchange. The rates have been reduced here and we are writing risks now very low. Many people do not realize that they might save on their insurance by exercising greater care around their premises. Some places are so liable to fire that it is surprising heavier rates are not asked. It is a fact, however, that rates in this city are less than anywhere around here. They are as low, if not lower, than in Worcester, and it is solely on account of the fact that Mr. Parker mentions, our efficient fire department and splendid water service. Our fire department is second to none, and we are specially fortunate in our water service. These things are considered when the rates are determined. A change of rates could be affected only by a general demand of the agents and policy holders backed, perhaps, by the Board of Trade. A committee from out of town would have to be appointed to come here and investigate, and it is very doubtful if any change would be made, at least such changes as Mr. Parker suggests. One or two special things would tend to lower the rates in particular cases, taking all possible precautions by owners of property and the appointment of a fire marshal, whose duty it is to examine property and keep the fire precautions up to a proper standard. This is not done here, and the consequence is we still have some old fire traps in Fitchburg.

Mr. Morse and Mr. Downe of the Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company said they were governed in the matter of rates by the corporation rates, but returned from 20 per cent. and upwards to their patrons. It is a fact, however, they stated, that the rates in this city are lower than anywhere around, and are low, if not lower, than in Worcester. Their company refused to insure some kinds of property at any price, and in consequence of the nature of our water system and efficiency of the fire department, had a large amount of risks written on property in this city. They were satisfied that investigation would prove that the rates here were lower than in any place in the vicinity.

Another agent of long experience and good judgment when shown the statements of the above gentlemen said they were correct. The companies fixed certain rates based upon certain conditions. The conditions required were that all necessary safeguards for the prevention of fire or the extinguishing of fire after started should be adopted. The more safe guards adopted the lower the rate of insurance. The best judgment and experience as well as justice and equity were brought to bear in fixing these rates. The safer the property the lower the rate, the more improvements and safeguards against fire, the lower the rates.

Every person interviewed on this subject praised our fire department and water works. That our firemen may become a little vain and a little mite careless is to be feared if everybody continues to praise them, but that fear is not entertained by

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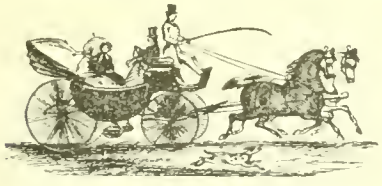

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Secret Societies.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The Knights and Ladies of Honor voted in three new members Monday evening.

The Order of the Golden Lion is gaining good ground in Townsend and other places around.

Rollstone Commandery, Order of the Golden Grail, paid a number of matured certificates last evening.

Fitchburg Council No. 3, National Congress of Friends, received 20 applications for membership Tuesday evening.

At the first meeting of Whalom Lodge, No. 4, Order of Golden Lion, Friday evening, 33 new members were admitted.

The National Congress of Friends and the Bay State League seem to be the two Orders now receiving most new members in this city.

Deputy Supreme President G. M. Faulkner of this city will install the officers of a new lodge of the Order of the Royal Ark at Clinton Tuesday next.

Four of the lodges of Odd Fellows of New Haven are to unite in erecting a temple to cost $20,000. It will be built on Crown street, near Orange, and ground will be broken in about a month.

Red Cross Division, U. R. K. P., elected the following officers Monday evening: S. K. C., E. C. Field; S. K. L., F. L. Cummings; S. K. H., H. G. Chase; S. K. R., C. H. Vanderwarker; S. K. T., H. F. Rockwell.

Several improvements have been made in K. of H. hall, which now makes it very convenient for an audience room when needed. The inside platforms have been made adjustable and other needed alterations have also been made.

Apollo Lodge, No. 205, I. O. O. F., conferred the second degree on eight candidates Wednesday evening. The third degree will be worked Wednesday next, and a reception to the officers and members of Mt. Roulstone lodge will follow. Supper will be served in G. A. R. hall. Dill of Waltham will probably be caterer.

The new features of the Golden Grail are attracting attention, and the Order is receiving many new members. The only criticism heard about the Order now is the delay of 30 days or so in paying matured certificates when there are ample funds to pay at sight. The officers here hope to be able to induce the supreme officers to make it 12 or 15 days, when all will be satisfied.

AUCTION.

FIRST ANNUAL SALE
—OF—
BANANAS
AT AUCTION
TO-NIGHT.
—AT—
MACY'S.

Going out of Business.
Closing out Sale
OF THE
BOSTON
Dry Goods Store.

Being called to give my attention to another business, I have decided to close out my business here in Fitchburg, and, in order to close out clean and at once, I have inaugurated A GRAND CLOSING SALE with every article in my store

MARKED DOWN.

I have not the time or space necessary to enumerate the long list of bargains we shall offer, but assure the public that they can now buy Dry Goods, Cloaks, or Small Wares at lower prices than ever before made on these lines of goods

Remember that every article in our store, from a spool of cotton to a Cloak, has been greatly reduced in price, and you can save money if you do your trading with us.

TERMS OF THIS GREAT SALE.
All goods sold for cash.
No goods taken back.
No goods exchanged.
Each and every sale must be final.

All prudent buyers will attend this sale.

E. E. STAPLES,
178 Main St., Fitchburg.
Boston Dry Goods Store.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Dixey's appearance in "Seven Ages," Saturday last, drew a large and fashionable audience. The piece was well staged and elegantly costumed. The support of the company was good and the whole entertainment was very enjoyable. In the play itself Dixey appeared in seven different characters, from a baby in a carriage to "the lean and slippered pantaloon." He made, as the ladies would say, "one of the cutest little babies ever seen." It was certainly a good make up, but a rather too knowing-looking baby. Dixey's most enjoyable and effective work was the pantaloon. In his library surrounded by three other kindred spirits all tottering on the edge of the grave but possessed of jovial and bouyant spirits, his acting was excellent and impressive. The best that can be said of it was that it was lifelike. The female aggregation of Mr. Dixey's troupe was the finest seen here for a long time.

There is no doubt that the production of "The Great Metropolis" at the opera house next Wednesday and Thursday evenings will be one of the best ever given in this city. Of the 20 odd changes of scene which are exhibited, several are truly grand. The storm at sea and shipwreck, the East River at night and the exterior of Sandy Hook lighthouse are extremely fine. The two latter were painted from sketches made upon the spot, that of the lighthouse showing the venerable beacon with the pale rays of the moon shining upon it and reflecting its stately proportions in the placid waters of old Atlantic. Other scenes are equally picturesque and realistic, and naturally enhance the interest in the story of the play. The company embraces several well-known people, among whom is Forrest Robinson who has occupied the highest places in the Boston Museum and Boston Theatre companies. Another interesting person who will be seen here is Captain James, the famous old life saver of Hull, Mass., who has risked his life hundreds of times to save others, and whose heroic deeds have been rewarded by the government with handsome gold and silver medals, and for whom the citizens of Boston raised upwards of $3,000 by subscription and publicly presented it to him and his crew at the Chamber of Commerce a few years ago. From all points of view this will be a notable event, a fact which the public appear to be thoroughly aware of judging from the number of applications that have been received that seats be laid aside. The sale of seats opens Monday next.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

"Ship Ahoy" is now on its second month of prosperity at the Park theatre, and seems to grow more popular every week. Every evening large audiences laugh and applaud over it till tired out. E. M. Favor as Commodore Cook, F. R. Blair as Col. Mapleson Mulberry, C. W. Allison as Barnacle Duff and Eddy Readway as Simpson Christy are much in favor with those present. Miss Edith Murilla is also much applauded. New and bright verses have been added to the topical songs, and it seems as if the gatherings would never tire listening to the artists. The situations seem to grow more mirth-provoking at every presentation.

Large audiences gather at the Globe theatre to see Rose Coghlan in Lady Barter. The Boston critics do not appear to like the play very well, but it draws large houses all the same. Next week Henry E. Dixey in "Seven Ages" is the bill of fare.

Commencing on Monday next Charles H. Hoyt's latest success "A Trip to Chinatown" will be presented at the Boston theatre. Mr. Hoyt is pleased to call it "a musical trifle" but it is one of the best things he has turned out and the New York *Herald* says: "It is just the sort of entertainment to drive away all thought of storm, rheumatism, pneumonia, and money stringency. Light and purposeless as a bit of down, it is blown breezily in one's face and tickles it. There is no horse play worth noticing in it, but a rippling stream of sparkling melody runs through the performance, broken continually by the sharp tones of witty lines. The first selection is as bright as the eyes of the pretty girls who interpret it; the second part is loaded to the neck with specialties, and the third part ends the notable performance.

Fanny Davenport's grand production of Sardou's Cleopatra closes at the Hollis street, tonight, and next week Mr. and Mrs. Kendall open their new season at this popular theatre. It is a pity Miss Davenport's play could not run for another two weeks it is of such magnificence.

Fanny Davenport has accomplished what no other actress or manager has ever dared to attempt. She has produced Cleopatra in Boston in a most elaborate manner, with only three weeks in which to get up the magnificent scenery and costumes Boston likes the production too.

There is considerable talk of Frank Mayo, Louis Aldrich and McKee Rankin appearing as joint stars in a repertoire including "Davy Crockett," "My Partner" and "The Canuck." The pieces would, of course, be so revised as to give each of the three stars an opportunity to shine to advantage.

The Boston *Herald* says: "Clara Morris is unquestionably the greatest emotional actress speaking the English language today, and her wonderful genius—it would be unjust to call it talent—shines forth with greater splendor than at any time in her past. To see Clara Morris is to feel with her, to laugh and be gay when she is gay, to weep with her when she weeps. In 'Odetta' she has evidently made the greatest success of her life."

During the performance of "Old Jed Prouty" at Fall River last week, the ringing of a bell and a crash of glass made the people in the gallery think the place was on fire, and a rush was made for the doors. Richard Golden stepped to the footlights and shouted: "Sit down, you fools; there is nothing the matter. I'd be the first out of here if there was." Some time in the afternoon it appears that five boys had crawled into the cupboard underneath the top gallery and overhead the dress circle seats When the show had begun they attempted to get out, and one of the boy's feet got entangled in a wire to which was attached a bell, and the other stepped on a huge piece of glass. In another moment, but for Golden's presence of mind, there would have been a panic.

Read "The Warfield Homestead." Back numbers can be obtained at TOWN TALK office, or of the newsdealers.

WASH BOARDS

ZINC BOTH SIDES,

ONLY 75c. EACH.

4 LBS. NEW DATES. 25 CTS.

40c. CHOCOLATE DROPS,

25 CENTS A POUND.

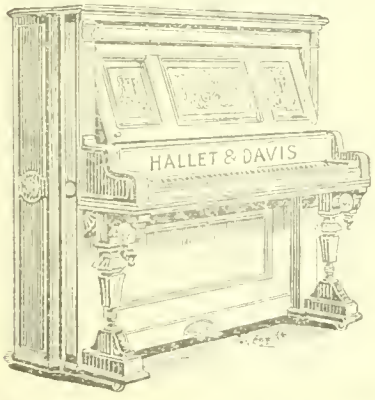
EVERYTHING AT LOWEST PRICES.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

HALLET & DAVIS



PIANOS

Are still to the front. Our sales the past six months THE LARGEST WE HAVE EVER KNOWN.

A large stock of Second-Hand Instruments at very low prices, and to rent.

Orders for Tuning attended to promptly.

J. F. CHAFFIN,

157 MAIN STREET. 157

Leominster Breezes.

THEY SAY

That Hosmer's new store is a fine one and the location could not be better.

That Janitor Tisdale is "onto" some of the boys in town, and that if they go any further some one will get into trouble.

That the old folks' ball will be the coming event, the date having been set for March 5. A long list of names has already been secured and new ones are being added every day.

That the members of Always Ready Hose Company held a most successful concert and ball Thursday evening last, and that their parties grow larger and more popular each year.

That our friend Powers, who attends to the weather signals, would like a few more dollars so that new signal flags may be purchased. That every one should chip in their mite so that the flags will be forthcoming.

That the Farmers' Club held an interesting meeting the other night, and that the date for their annual fair is set for Sept. 17. That the club will introduce some new features to their already interesting day's entertainment. That a lecture on Mechanical Arts and a farmer's institute are events likely to occur in the near future.

That our Board of Trade is something sure to come, and that it will be a great benefit to the business interests of the town. That nearly 150 names have been secured already, and that most of our business men are alive to the interests of anything that will help promote the welfare of the town. That the list is still open and every one who is at all interested should give in their name.

That ex-Representative Cook, in his speech before the Citizens' Club, told what he thought of the selectmen with regard to the liquor question. He is of the opinion that less time should be spent in prosecuting the poor old widow and more time in looking after the druggists he spent, who, he claims, sells barrels of the ardent. Hon. Henry would make them smart if he was only a member of the board.

The Women's Suffrage League of Leominster wishing to show its appreciation of the assistance rendered by the townspeople in the entertainments of the past, especially in "Longfellow's Dream," and also to acknowledge the generous patronage extended by the public at large, has engaged the noted writer, Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, to give a free lecture in the town hall next Monday evening, Feb. 9. Mrs. Howe is the well-known author of the famous "Battle Hymn of the Republic," whose echoes have been marching on ever since the glorious success of the cause that inspired them. Among a variety of subjects submitted by Mrs. Howe, "Is Polite Society Polite?" has been selected as the theme of the evening. It is hoped that a large audience will assemble to do honor to the distinguished guest and to listen to her discussion of a topic that is often called in question. Doors open at the usual hour, the lecture to begin at 7.45.

SACHET POWDERS.

TRY OUR NEW ODORS,

Cherry Blossom and Arbutus.

EXQUISITE AND LASTING.

H. A. ESTABROOK & CO.,

APOTHECARIES,

CORNER MAIN AND PRICHARD STREETS.

Attention! R. R. Men.

We would call your attention to our SAFETY SHOE.

This Shoe is made especially for Railroad Men and you cannot afford to be without it.

It is made neat and durable, and should occasion require, the foot could be removed from it in a twinkling.

Call and examine.

Price, $2.50.

The Empire Shoe Store,

367 MAIN STREET.

E. H. BURBANK, Prop'r
F. B. MARSHALL, Manager.

EUGENE F. STONE.

CARRIAGE PAINTER,

BETWEEN

BROOK AND VINE STS.

Entrance on Vine St.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That Mayor Graves and his force "got there" without the aid of a coup d' etat.

That every advertisement in this paper is worthy your careful reading. You will find that Fitchburg merchants can and do sell as low as the lowest anywhere for the same quality of goods.

That those who sampled Mrs. Battles' cooking Wednesday evening are of opinion that she is hard to beat. They do not wonder now that "Gus" is so lively and that he looks after the streets so well.

That one young butcher who went with a sleighing party to Westminster recently got lost, and the hotel proprietor and some of his friends think of having him tagged in future so that he may be known if lost again.

That the winner of the gold watch has been decided upon. The winner will be announced next week. In the meantime you can see the boy's watch in Rogers' window and the girl's in Vanderwarker's. The winning essay will be given next week.

That a report is current on Main street that there is to be a general raising of rents. The reason assigned is that Mr. Dickinson's new block has started it and Mr. Cushing's block seconds it. The rent of the store lately occupied by Mr. Blodgett has been raised, and rumor says the reason was that Tom Lunan offered a big price for it for a hotel.

That the residents on a certain street, which certainly is not *South* street, probably quite the opposite, are beginning to talk about one house, its occupants and visitors. According to their story the plumber has not got through work yet, it takes the butcher a long time to deliver his meat, the baker must be making a contract to supply an ocean liner and a book agent must be fitting up the house as a public library, so often and so long do they go and remain there. Look out, boys, they're onto you.

That the following is said to be true. When the officers made the raids, Saturday evening, three men left one of the places raided and on going outside played a joke on another party who, one of them knew, had some of the ardent in his possession. It appears that one party has been selling on the sly, keeping the bulk of the stuff in another house near. Recently a keg of whiskey was put in and one of these two men knew of it. On leaving the raided house he told his plan and told his companions to follow. Arriving at the house he told the men they were raiding so and so and said —— was afraid they would come to this house and they wanted to get the keg of whiskey out quick. This was done and taken and the keg was taken away. It has not been seen since, but report says several men had a high old time with it Sunday.

That a very funny incident happened on Main street Saturday evening last to a Leominster lady who accompanied her husband to this city. In the window of a Main street store he saw a suit which attracted his attention, and stepped into the store to enquire the price, leaving his wife outside looking at the window. In the meantime another gentleman stopped to look at the suit, and the lady seeing her husband come out, wheeled around and took the arm of the stranger. She walked a few yards, keeping hold of his arm, before discovering her error, and her husband followed enjoying the fun. When she looked up and discovered her mistake her face was a picture. The Sifter inwardly wished he had a Kodak.

Girard & Irish

Are daily receiving novelties in

DRESS GOODS

Suitable for early spring wear.

EXAMINATION SOLICITED.

GIRARD & IRISH,

ONE PRICE

Dry Goods, Cloaks & Millinery,

212 Main St., Fitchburg.

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Best grade of Flour at lowest prices.

Canned goods very low.

One can very best California Apricots or Cherries, one can of Peaches, two cans of Tomatoes and two cans of Corn or Peas, state Maine packing, for

ONE DOLLAR.

A good can of Peas for 10c. Old Pop Corn, Boxes of choice Boneless Fish, not a bone in it. Nice Butter and Fresh Eggs. New Orleans Molasses.

PERLEY HOLMES.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

DO YOU KNOW

THAT Randel's Central Market is the place to buy your provisions?
THAT his goods are just what he represents them to be?
THAT he carries the largest and best selected stock of Provisions, Poultry, Game and Fruit to be found in the city?
THAT he can and will make better prices for Hotels and Boarding Houses, than any other dealer?
THAT if goods are not as represented they can be returned and money will be refunded?
THAT his prices are as low as the lowest, quality considered?
THAT the "Maple Grove" Sausages are the best ever sold in Fitchburg?

CENTRAL MARKET,

304 Main Street.

GEO. H. RANDEL.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.
THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE to St. Albans, St. Johns, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.

ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, ‡3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at ‡7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, ‡8.10 and 11.30 a. m., ‡2 25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at ‡4.50 p. m.

‡Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
I. N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

Sunday Services.

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; day of special service, singing from Gospel Hymns, led by chorus; 10 a.m., German service with sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30 service of worship with sermon by Rev. R. S. Underwood; 12 m., Bible School; 4, Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, service of worship with sermon by Rev. R. S Underwood. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Egypt Enriched for Joseph's Sake;" Sunday School at 12 m.; evening service, 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning, prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's Epworth meeting at 6 p. m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, Sunday School at 12 m.; young people's service at 6 p.m.; at 7 p. m., sermon by Rev. W. H. Pierson, subject, "The Bible as Literature." All are welcome.

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, topic, "Worthy of all acceptation;" Sunday School 12 m.; People's service 7 p. m., sermon by the pastor. An enlarged chorus will assist in the service of song in the evening.

"World Wide" Salvation Army, barracks at 190½ Main street, rear entrance on Crescent street. Services at 11 a. m., 3 and 8 p. m., Capt. Caldwell, leader. All cordially invited.

Railroad Men's meeting at Red Men's hall, 239½ Main street, at 5 p. m.

Y. M. C. A. Bible training class in Association rooms, from 9.15 to 10.15 a. m. Meeting for men at 4 p. m.

East Street Mission Sunday School will meet at 3 p. m. All are welcome.

The Finn Temperance Union will hold a gospel temperance meeting at W. C. T. U. rooms, Wixon's block, at 4. p. m.

M. E. Church, West Fitchburg, Rev. Edward Higgins, pastor. At 10.30 a. m., preaching service; 12 m., Sunday School; 6 p. m., young people's meeting; 6.30, praise and prayer service.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m. and 7 p. m.; Sunday School at 12 m.

The New Church (Swedenborgian) services will be held in Knights of Honor hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.45 a. m.

BORN.

EDSON—At Leominster Jan. 24, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Elwin L. Edson.

MARRIED.

CHENEY—TIMAN—Jan. 30, by Rev Frank Rector, William W. Cheney and Bridget Timan.

COFFIN—LITTLEFIELD—At Leominster Jan. 24, by Rev. Charles F. Rice, Herbert E Coffin of Berwick, Me., and May Belle A. Littlefield of Fitchburg.

BARBER—STEVENS—Feb. 1, by Rev. Frank Rector, George H. Barber and Lizzie I. Stevens.

WIGHTMAN—SAWYER—Feb. 4, at the residence of Charles K. Sawyer, by Rev. Frank Rector, Walter B. Wightman and Carrie A. Sawyer No cards.

DIED.

SURPRISE—Feb. 5, Trefily, son of Nelson and Hermenius Surprise, 16 years, 7 mos., 23 days.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

GLACE NUTS

AND

Cream-Dipped Orange Slices,

TO-DAY, AT

E. M. READ'S.

Our trade on Cream Mints and Butter Caramels was larger than expected, last week.

Will try and have enough to supply the demand in future.

Just received a new lot of fleece lined and print wrappers that I shall sell very cheap.

Ladies' kitchen aprons, extra large size, 25 cents each. All kinds of children's aprons.

For the next 30 days I shall sell my ready-made suits very cheap, I have Cashmeres, Henrietta, Ladies' Cloth, Serge, Plaids, Satin, etc.

These can be found at

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER'S

CITY HAIR STORE,

183 Main Street. Up Stairs.

OPPOSITE MACY'S.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 171 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS.

MONDAY.

St. Vincent de Paul annual coffee party at city hall.

TUESDAY.

Sons of St. George dance in G. A. R. hall.

WEDNESDAY.

Reception in G. A. R. hall, to Mt. Roulstone lodge, by Appollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.

"Great Metropolis," at the opera house.

THURSDAY.

"Great Metropolis," at the opera house.

D. G. HORTON,

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

BREAD, CAKE

—AND—

PASTRY.

CRACKERS OF ALL KINDS.

306 Main St., - Fitchburg.

AT THE

O. L. P. C., Day Street.

Hecker's Self-raising

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR

6 lb. package for 30 cents.
4½ " " " 23 "
3 " " " 15 "

Plain Buckwheat Flour,
Per lb. 3 1-2 cts.

Maple Syrup,
Not new but very nice and pure.
25 cts. per qt.

Baker's Shells,
5 cts. per lb.

American Sardines,
5 cts. per box.

J. A. JOSLIN,

16 & 20 Day St.

TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

A PARLOR SUIT

OF SIX PIECES, Custom Work, and Made by

FERDINAND & AUSTIN.

DO YOU WANT IT? HOW TO GET IT.

Do your trading with the following representative firms. Every 25-cent purchase entitles you to one card. Be sure and ask for it when the purchase is made. At the expiration of three months (April 25, 1891,) the person holding the greatest number of cards will receive the PARLOR SUIT FREE OF CHARGE. Remember the cards are obtained only at the following stores.

Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St.
A. L. Williams & Co., Grocers, 153 & 155 Main St.
H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St.
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St.
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block.
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 374 Main St.
E. E. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St.
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St.
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St.
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. A. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 7.

FITCHBURG, MASS., FEBRUARY 14, 1891.

$2 00 PER YEAR.
5 CENTS A COPY.

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&
PHILBROOK,

THE POPULAR

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See our Grand Oil Heater for rooms that need to be heated only part of the time.

See our Quaker Range if you want one that will stand every test. Hundreds of names in our list of customers who use them.

Parlor Stoves at your own price.

A full assortment of

Parlor Suits,
Chamber Sets,
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Cutlery,
Lamps,
Straw Matting,
Mirrors,
Carpets,
Rugs,
Clocks, &c.

CHIPMAN &
PHILBROOK,
222 MAIN ST.

MISS AURA WINIFRED JOHNSON.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

Aura W. Johnson, to whom as the writer of the best essay in the recent TOWN TALK contest the judges have awarded the gold watch, is a daughter of William C. Johnson, the well-known lumber merchant. Though a resident of Lunenburg, she has received her education in the public schools of this city. She entered the High school Sept. 6, 1887, and will graduate next June. Miss Johnson's record in school is an enviable one. Her scholarship has always placed her among the very first pupils of her class, and her conscientious fidelity to the duties of school-life has been conspicuous throughout her course. She has especially excelled in written composition, her essays exhibiting careful preparation, maturity of thought and ease of expression. She is one of the editors of the school weekly, "*The Echo*," and has contributed several interesting articles for its columns. Miss Johnson is deservedly popular with teachers and pupils, and will wear her new watch with the hearty congratulations and best wishes of all her associates and acquaintances.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

Mr. Edison, in speaking to the employes at the Ogden Iron Mines, at Dover, N. J., a few days ago, said: "Boys, wait until next winter and we shall have no snow to bother us upon the hill. During the coming year I shall invent electric and sunlight reflectors that will melt the snow as fast as it falls."

Dr. Tanner's challenge of his rival faster Succi to a fast until one of the contestants gives out opens, the way to a satisfactory ending of this wearisome manifestations of crankiness and vainglory. To be completely satisfactory, however, the condition should be that both give out, give up and give themselves away.

The Waltham *Free Press* for poetic reasons, desires to see the revenue from liquor licenses applied to the poor and police departments. The last year received $19,000 for licenses and the two departments mentioned cost $21,000.—[Lynn Press. Why would it not be better, Brother Press, if the Waltham editor substituted "for the eternal fitness of things" instead of for poetic reasons.

Recently the *Mail* printed a saloon-keeper's prayer and stated that it was "prayed" in Chelsea, but thought it sounded more like Chicago. Others locate it in Bangor, Me., some three or four years ago, but the *Mail's* informant says Chelsea is the place and that it occurred recently. This week Brother Morse of Marlboro quotes it and says he originally printed it a dozen years ago. Some time ago a reader brought us an English paper, 17 years old, containing this same prayer and locating the scene at Crewe, England. The Crewe "prayer" goes these chaps one better for he finishes up as follows: "As it is usual after prayer to indulge in a little service of song, we will bring this goodly business to a close with a little hymn. Thus:

> There were some young ladies of Crewe,
> Not liking the good barley brew,
> Came seeking a martyr,
> Discovered a Tartar,
> Who made them their visit to rue."

Charles Bradlaugh, pronounced atheist, the Bob Ingersoll of England, goes to the grave without ceremonies of any kind over his remains, but dies loved by many friends and respected by his enemies. How the world has changed! The writer remembers the time when Bradlaugh lectured under the greatest difficulties and after his lecture had to escape by back-doors to avoid the howling mob. He was not without faults apart from his religion—or rather non-religion—but he had a warm heart, a most wonderful memory, a splendid physique and had indomitable courage and perseverance. These qualities are loved and admired even in conservative England by the masses and now the atheist so hated and despised dies loved by his friends and respected by his enemies. The kind things that are said of him show the change of feeling that is gradually impressing itself on time. Scarcely a 100 years ago and his death would have been almost suppressed from public notice—So high did prejudice run at that time against a mind that dared to proclaim free thought.

Sam Jones, the revivalist, is nothing if not original. Out in Texas he went for the sinners "bald headed," as the vulgar phrase runs. The back-sliders caught it hot, and in some places Sam rather overstepped the bounds of propriety by calling names. At Palestine he gave Mayor J. J. Ward a severe raking over in November last and then went on his way. Smce then the mayor has nursed his wrath, hoping that the time would come when he could handle the reverend gentleman in true Texan style. Finally the much longed-for moment arrived, and the angry mayor—even mayors get angry at times; they get angry up North here sometimes and "cuss and sware" at editors as well as at revivalists—, armed with a heavy cane, visited Sam and gave him a trouncing. Sam endeavored to prove that he was a part of the church militant, but the mayor was too much for him. So took the whacking with a bad grace and now invokes the aid of the law to get satisfaction.

INFANTS' FOOD!

Large assortment.

Every kind that's made,

AT BOTTOM PRICES.

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

NOW IS THE TIME

TO BUY FURS.

We have received from a manufacturer in New York, a large consignment of LADIES' FURS consisting of CAPES, COLLARS and MUFFS, WITH ORDERS TO SELL.

These goods are all new and fresh, and many of them will be sold for half the price the same kind were before the Holidays. Every article is warranted as represented, and can be returned if not perfectly satisfactory.

Men's Fur Collars and Cuffs ready made or made to order, at very low prices.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers,

Hatters, and Furriers.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.

227 Main St., Fitchburg

We invite the public to call and inspect our

New Glassware.

We have a new kind—Very Handsome.

Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.

LARGE LINE OF

CROCKERY AND PLATED WARE.

F. A. BLANCHARD, Proprietor

DO YOU KNOW

THAT Randel's Central Market is the place to buy your provisions?
THAT his goods are just what he represents them to be?
THAT he carries the largest and best selected stock of Provisions, Poultry, Game and Fruit to be found in the city?
THAT he can and will make better prices for Hotels and Boarding Houses, than any other dealer?
THAT if goods are not as represented they can be returned and money will be refunded?
THAT his prices are as low as the lowest, quality considered?
THAT the "Maple Grove" Sausages are the best ever sold in Fitchburg?

CENTRAL MARKET,

304 Main Street.

GEO. H. RANDEL.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

A well-known real estate owner who is noted for his careful management of all matters connected with business has just made a new departure in the line of employing foreigners which causes a little amusement and a little—but to business. This gentleman employed a plumber, to do some work, and figured so fine on the expense that the man could not think of hiring any help and so informed the gentleman in question. The reply was that it was all right, he would furnish him a helper. Judge of his astonishment when he got to work and called for his helper to see a Chinaman come forth "with a smile that was child-like and bland." If we interpreted his thoughts and remarks we should print them in Volapuk.

Several persons who went to hear a Spiritualist exponent, Sunday last were quite amused at one of his manifestations and are now inclined to think that perhaps some of those in the spirit land have the same rollicking disposition they had when meandering on this earth. According to report this medium was soaring up into the spirit world,—we suppose it is up, and he wavered in his flight to tell the mortals around him what common mistakes they were making about the mysteries beyond. This viewer of the spiritual kingdom says the common belief of our religious brethren is that on the other side all are equal and alike, is wrong. Says he, just as you notice various personalities here, difference in dress, etc., some men with pants nearly to their knees, others with their pants under their heels etc., so they are in the spirit world. And the women, too,—I will not tell you about the women spirits. Ask some of those who were present. Perhaps the medium did not mean it, or may be the spirit controlling him was not given to our forms of expression. We would not for a moment insinuate that any spirit that could be purchased would get off such a joke, we only suspect that the medium has mistaken his vocation. If he could only secure a good berth in a minstrel troupe his fortune would be more.

It is understood that Rev. Jesse Wagner has notified the official members of the Methodist society that he will sever his connection with the society about the middle of April. He has been here about three years and succeeded Rev. T. B. Smith. It is not yet known who will be his successor although one minister is freely spoken of.

The Y. M. C. A. reception Thursday evening was a success in every detail. The primary object of the affair was to get together a number of business men in order to show them what the institution is accomplishing in other places and to give information to those who do not fully understand its scope. An excellent supper was prepared under the supervision of Walter Conant, and E. M. Read furnished ice cream and coffee of his usual good quality. An entertainment consisting of speech and song followed, and every one present seemed to heartily enjoy the occasion. The association is doing a good work here, and we hope the day is not far distant when those who are working so enthusiastically in its welfare will see their efforts crowned with success.

It is evident that the association has picked a good location for its contemplated buildings and that an association building is good property to invest in, as the following will show: A gentleman who has some trust funds to invest has, through the medium of N. C. Upham, made overtures for the purchase of the lot, offering to pay about $6,000 more than the association has given for it, and promising to put up a building to be called the Y. M. C. A. building, the upper portion of which should be specially designed for that purpose, the lower portion to be designed for stores. The offer, while somewhat enticing, was declined, as the intention is to have a building *owned* by the association. The intention is to improve and enlarge the present property when the association commences work, and later to build a structure that will be a credit to the city.

A. G. Newton, clerk for C. B. Walker who is selling out and who will carry on the business after Mr. Walker leaves, was formerly with H. L. Larabee for three year. For the past two years he has practically managed the business and as he is a well-known and popular young man he will doubtless build up a good business. After the clearance sale, which lasts for one or two weeks longer, he will put in a new and well selected stock and will carry on the business under the name of A. G. Newton & Co.

GLACE NUTS

AND

Cream-Dipped Orange Slices,

TO-DAY, AT

E. M. READ'S.

Our trade on Cream Mints and Butter Caramels was larger than expected, last week.

Will try and have enough to supply the demand in future.

FOR LUMBER

Call at yard of

C. A. PRIEST LUMBER COMPANY,

45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.

If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

MARY HOWE CONCERT

AT CITY HALL,

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25, 1891.

For further particulars see daily papers.

Gossip and Hit-Chat.

A Boston woman has done herself proud by presenting her husband with two pairs of twins in 16 months.

Madame Bernhardt handles snakes with the ease and unconcern of a snake-charmer and fondles them almost as much as her Antony. But suppose some mischievous young rascal were to holler "rats" immediately after one of the divine Sarah's passionate scenes, would she cling to her Antony?

A Fitchburg man who recently visited Chicago brings back a very complimentary report for one of our local industries. On Milwaukee avenue a very large dry-goods store was pointed out to him, and in the window he noticed some Parkhill ginghams. In company with his friend he entered the store and was introduced to the proprietor as coming from the place where the Parkhill ginghams were made. He was very cordially received, and was informed that the goods in question were the best of their kind that the firm handled, and brought larger prices than any other class sold. "In fact," said the proprietor, "the only trouble is we cannot get enough of them." The Fitchburg man was, of course, much pleased to hear the products of his hilly little home so well spoken of, and being a genuine Fitchburger he could not help but tell the story to TOWN TALK.

A Chicago reader of TOWN TALK writes us in complimentary terms about our paper but thinks we hit Chicago too hard. We hope not, because we would like to visit that airy little town in 1892 and if we strike too hard perhaps we may get into trouble there. Some time since we published an article on the Evanston Co-operative Association which, Bellamy-like, has looked backward. Judging from the following which the reader sends us we judge our friend is a lady. The servant girl is now in the saddle, so to speak, in Evanston. When she returns to the kitchen it will be on her own terms, and after the display on the part of the mistress of a due amount of contrition and humanity. It is not so strange, when one comes to think of it, that the now famous Bellamy Kitchen has failed. Too much depends on the proper and timely serving of meals. A man who eats at home must regulate all the business of his life so as to harmonize with his meal times. He must, especially if he lives in a suburb like Evanston, have his breakfast at a fixed hour, so that he can arrive on time at his office. After the work of the day, when he gets home tired and hungry, he wants to find a dinner piping hot and ready. Regularity seems to have been a virtue of the Evanston drivers. And when they failed to show up on time there was no help for it. Even profanity was useless. Another trouble was that when dinner was served it had to be eaten, whether satisfactory or not. When meals are prepared from one's own kitchen changes can be made, errors rectified, and additional dishes ordered. Such luxuries might have been dispensed with, however, but what was Mr. Smith, whose family consists of eight, to do when the driver left the tray intended for Brown, who has only one child, and that an infant? Take it all in all, the men of Evanston are probably not very sorry that the Bellamy Kitchen has failed. One thing seems certain, the hired girl has come to stay. She is an important and necessary factor in modern civilization. Let us all hope and pray that the Evanston experiment will not cause her to tilt her nose too high.

In Berlin, where the telephone is entirely under government control, the wires are all under ground, 2,500 miles of them. Here is an example for American cities to emulate. The telephone wires could be put in conduits under ground without great trouble, but it would be bad for electric light companies. The tendency of electricity is to seek the ground, and electric light wires carry such a great pressure that the farther the wires are from the ground the better. Until a far superior system of insulation than we have at present is perfected, to compel the companies to put their wires under ground would cause three-fourths of them to suspend operations, unless a corresponding advance of prices was paid.

D. G. HORTON,

Manufacturer of and Dealer in

BREAD, CAKE

—AND—

PASTRY.

CRACKERS OF ALL KINDS.

306 Main St., - Fitchburg.

ECONOMY IN FUEL

BY THE USE OF THE

GAS CO'S PREPARED

COKE!

The Gas Company now has

PREPARED COKE ON HAND.

A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.

A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

Attention! R. R Men.

We would call your attention to our SAFETY SHOE.

This Shoe is made especially for Railroad Men and you cannot afford to be without it.

It is made neat and durable, and should occasion require, the foot could be removed from it in a twinkling.

Call and examine.

Price, $2.50.

The Empire Shoe Store,

367 MAIN STREET.

E. H. BURBANK, Prop'r.
E. B. MARSHALL, Manager

Come in and See

MY NEW LINE OF

WALL PAPERS,

MOULDINGS,

Window Shades, &c.

Window Shades made and hung to order.

GEO. Z. PAGE

359 MAIN STREET.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. P. LAWRENCE, Prop'r

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

WASH BOARDS

ZINC BOTH SIDES,

ONLY 15c. EACH.

4 LBS. NEW DATES, 25 CTS.

40c. CHOCOLATE DROPS,

25 CENTS A POUND.

EVERYTHING AT LOWEST PRICES.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

SPECIAL BARGAINS

—IN—

MEN'S AND BOYS'

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

SQUARE DEALING, ONE PRICE

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

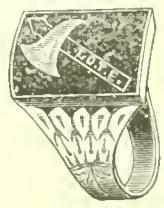
Under American House.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

Brooklyn, N. Y., is agitating the question of lowering the street-car fares for the school children. The children who attend the Brooklyn public schools and their parents are of a class who have no need for placing them in such a position. The concession was advocated purely as a good business move. The argument was advanced that more money would be received at a reduced rate than is now taken in, while at the same time the lower fare would be a help to many families who have a limited income, and who have several children in the high schools at the same time, a number of whom either have to take two lines of cars or walk long distances. President Lewis, of the Brooklyn City Railroad company, has agreed to meet the committee of the board of education, who are engaged in this most commendable work of securing lower car fares for the children, and it is to be hoped that he will see his way clear to granting the concession asked for.

Many of our readers will remember Evangelist L. W. Munhall who conducted services here about a year ago. He is now doing his best to save Providence, and one of the Providence papers tells this story of him: "Evangelist L. W. Munhall, who has been in Providence for some time past, tells a story of the way he revenged himself upon a party of poker players in Washington. He went to his hotel one night, very much exhausted from his day's labor, and retired. He had just begun to drowse when four or five young men went into a room opposite to the one he occupied, and getting out the chips, began a poker game. The noise of the chips and the loud conversation of the players prevented Mr. Munhall from getting rest, and he summoned the hotel clerk to remonstrate against the disturbance. The porter came first and said nothing could be done. Then the clerk came and gave a similar answer. Mr. Munhall then went to the room where the players were and tried to reason with them, but in vain. Finding it useless to parley longer, Mr. M. went to his room, took a book and begun to read. Long after the midnight hour he heard the breaking up of the poker party and the participants preparing for bed. As soon as he thought they were well on their way to slumber, the evangelist went to their door and knocked. He was asked what he wanted, and replied by saying that he had begged them as a favor to let him sleep in the early part of the night and they refused, and he was determined now that they should not sleep, and he kept his word, for he kept up the knocking at intervals until daylight.

A well-to-do Globe village man has just settled up a peculiar case. For years in the morning he has visited a certain store, bought two or three crackers and a piece of raw tripe, sausage or cheese, to the value of three or four cents, and gone to the rear of the store to eat it. He has done this frequently during the past two years, without exciting suspicion or comment, beyond the fact that it was deemed a queer proceeding on his part. When in the rear of the store he usually sat by the side of the egg box. Last Monday one of the proprietors of the store noticed the man pick up several eggs from the box and transfer them to the capacious pocket of his coat. Watch was kept upon his next appearance, and when he repeated his egg trick and tried to leave the store the proprietor said to him: "Hadn't you better leave the eggs you have got in your pocket?" Protestations were of no avail and the man deposited 13 eggs on the head of a flour barrel. Being threatened with prosecution, the man made a confession to the effect that during the past two years he had taken probably $75 worth of eggs from the store. The matter was placed in the hands of an attorney, and it is said it cost the man nearly $200 to settle the matter satisfactorily.



Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,

187 MAIN ST.

EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

A. H. BURGESS,

Druggist

AND APOTHECARY

248 MAIN STREET,

Fitchburg, - - - - Mass.

COR. OLIVER ST

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

The annual charity party of the St Vincent de Paul society at city hall Monday evening was well attended and proved a great success.

The appointment of Mr. Townend to succeed the late Mr. Stearns as cashier of the Fitchburg National bank will give his many friends here much pleasure.

Pat Nortan, the well-known and popular engineer on the Old Colony railroad, has got back his old favorite "iron horse" No. 124. Pat thinks more of his engine than many ladies do of their pug dogs and that is saying a good deal.

Several of our esteemed citizens were noticed last Sunday afternoon busily engaged with shovels and brooms in clearing the snow from the sidewalks in front of their premises. This was undoubtedly making good use of the Sabbath day, for the gentlemen in question evidently considered it a "necessity" to take advantage of the lull in the storm to clear their walks for the relief of their neighbors and other pedestrians. Would that their number were legion.

Still the demand for additional school accommodations increases. West Fitchburg seems in a fair way to get what she needs, and now the school committee should lift up its voice for more school rooms. Well, all this is expensive, but encouraging, and of course in the day of educational advances the prayer of the school board will have its effect, and the additional accommodations will be forthcoming. The mayor recognizes the need and is favorably disposed. Let's borrow $50,000 specially for public school purposes.

A base ball expert says that the chances of having a club here this year are not at all encouraging so far. The trouble seems to be that there is a want of co-operation and a little selfishness. Fitchburg has turned out some good players from time to time, but for two or three years now has not been able to make much headway with clubs. The public, too, has lost confidence in some of the clubs, having been treated to some snide games. We have men here who value their names well enough to give just what they promise, but there is so much work and little thanks to it that few care to undertake the task.

The action of Mayor Graves in dropping some of the officers of the police force and appointing new ones in their places has caused considerable comment some of which is entirely unwarranted by the facts of the case. The mayor is, of course, in a position to learn the inside workings of the force and considered all sides of the question before taking action. He will be pleased to give his reasons for taking the course he has taken to any one who has a right to know, if called upon.

The Chicago *Times* of January 19 contains a graphic account of the recent sacrifice of the members of St. Bernards Commandery made to save the life of a brother Mason who was suffering from an unhealed surgical operation. The names of all the Sir Knights who volunteered to undergo the painful operation are given and among them is that of William I. Marshall formerly of this city. The account of the operation is deeply interesting and we shall be pleased to loan the paper to any of our readers who may please to call at this office.

On Thursday next Ex-Lieut. Gov. Will Cumback of Indiana will lecture in city hall on the "The Common Man." Will Cumback was elected to Congress before he was 26 years old, and was the youngest member of the thirty-fourth Congress. In 1868 he was elected lieutenant-governor of Indiana. He has been on the platform for 15 years; has calls in the best lecture courses in the country; has spoken in almost every state in the union; is in the very prime and vigor of life. He is an Odd Fellow and has been Grand Master and Grand Representative of his state.

The ice merchants are happy and well they may be, as the crop is well nigh secured and no more fears of a famine. Ice cream will flourish next summer unless the McKinley bill may have to give it a side-winding blow. In these days you never know what will happen, but at present writing Messrs. Greene & Sheddon, the ice kings of Fitchburg, are rejoicing over one of the finest crops they ever housed on their respective ponds. Long may they live to rake in the boodle.

The people are watching the workings of the present municipal administration with mingled feelings of interest and curiosity. Mr. Graves was expected to have a rather "unique" administration, and so far there is no disappointment in that line. At present there are no licensed saloons or bars, and when Mr Graves took office he gave fair warning what he would do in the cases of those caught illegally selling. Very few will have any sympathy for the transgressors, and it appears the mayor is going to press these people hard, so the best way is to stop at once. Some one else is going to get into trouble unless there is a change in the way of conducting business. The mayor has also given orders that posters of a shady nature be suppressed. The mayor has the floor. Better realize at once that he means business.

A habitue of the opera house, in commenting upon the comparatively small attendance at the performances of late, thinks the society wave which is now sweeping over the country has much to do with it. It probably has. There is no question that many of those who have joined these endowment societies are likely patrons of the opera house, and will sooner miss a play than miss paying an assessment, when omitting one means expulsion and loss of what has been paid in. A large number of theatrical companies have gone to pieces this season, but the best have continued to draw big audiences.

It is understood that at the next meeting of the Merchants' Association the recent invention of gift enterprises will be a subject of discussion. Several merchants think the practice introduced into this city about Christmas time and since renewed by different stores is having a bad tendency and demoralizing trade. As a proof of this, one merchant mentions several cases that have come under his notice of persons having left their regular trading places and gone to others to try to get the sewing machine offered to the one getting the most tickets. He names one case in particular of a woman in very moderate circumstances who has apologized for leaving his store, stating that she wanted to get the sewing machine and thought she stood a good chance as she had over 500 tickets. The woman will be disappointed, however, for one man is said to have over 6,000 tickets for this machine.

A SOUVENIR
—OF—
FITCHBURG, MASS.,
CONSISTING OF
31 Different Views
—OF—
BUILDINGS, STREETS, ETC.
25 Cents Each.
PUBLISHED AND FOR SALE BY
J. E. THOMPSON, STATIONER,
118 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.
By mail, postpaid, upon receipt of price.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

Mary Howe is advertised for Wednesday, Feb. 25.

Dr. J. A. Greene will give a three nights' course of lectures at city hall commencing Monday next.

W. F. Lovering & Co. do not expect to open their new store before March 15. The goods are now in course of manufacture.

Tuesday, March 23 and the three following nights have been selected by Post 19 for the presentation of "The Drummer Boy."

H. F. Coggshall and A. H. Kimball will attend the national electric-light convention to be held at Providence, R. I. Feb. 18, 19 and 20.

D. H. Pierce announces a clearing out sale. He carries a large and well-selected stock of boots and shoes and offers them at greatly reduced prices. See adv.

Any pupil who has entered the contest for the gold watch and is desirous of retaining the essay sent in, can obtain it by calling at this office before Thursday.

Paul Pry has to confess that he got badly left this week. He started out to interview several persons on the post-office question, but apparently struck a row of sphinxes.

Travel South and West is very light this year. Ticket Agent Tufts states that he has sold less tickets this season to California and Florida of any season since being in the ticket-office.

Mr. T. P. M. Gowan, the accredited travelling representative of the Boston *Pilot*, was in town this week on a brief visit. He made a friendly call on TOWN TALK office. A recent issue of the *Pilot* contained a long and well-written article on Catholicity in Fitchburg.

We have no spring flowers, apples or cherry-blossom stories to give our readers this week, but think spring must be near as a couple of English sparrows are busily engaged building a nest in one of the electric light lamps at the depot.

The winner of the gold watch offered by this paper for the prize essay being a young lady, the watch, original essay and coupon are on exhibition, today, for the last time in C. H. Vanderwarker's store. The boy's watch in A. E. Rogers' store would have been taken had the winner been a boy.

A committee is securing names for the formation of an Odd Fellows' social club, something after the style of the Windsor club. Rooms will be engaged and fitted up in good style when the club is formed. It is expected that fully 200 members will be secured.

The management of the Rollstone Creamery, 231 Main street, formerly carried on by C. A. Sawyer and J. C. Watson has passed into the hands of James B. Sargent, who will keep a good supply of butter, cream, milk etc. on hand. See advertisement in another column.

On another page will be found a Boston letter of more than ordinary interest. It is bright, crisp and original and is written by Marion Howard, who will evidently tell TOWN TALK readers some interesting stories during the next six months. Miss Howard will have a letter every week.

Barber Babbitt has removed from his old stand under the Fitchburg hotel to the shop lately occupied by John W. Briggs over H. A. Hatch's grocery store. He has fitted the place up in good style and is to have incandescent lights put in. He will have a separate room for ladies and children.

Down to Clinton they have a new style of chronometers, at least that is the case according to last Saturday's Clinton *Courant*. It appears the Scotch residents had a ball recently and the *Courant* gravely stated that the dance led off at 41 o'clock. We have heard of watches being figured for 24 o'clock, but 41 as the song in "Ship Ahoy" runs "is certainly unique."

Persons having tickets for the sewing machine to be given away by T. S. Maloon & Co., E. E. Staples and others are requested to take them to the Boston Dry Goods store on or before Thursday next. The tickets must be done up in parcels and the name of the owner written plainly on the outside. The machine will be awarded to the winner on Friday next.

Henry A. Sargent, who left here a few weeks ago to locate at Portland, Oregon, has arrived safely at his destination, and likes his new home very well. He spent a brief spell in San Francisco and enjoyed himself very much with former Fitchburg friends. He speaks in glowing terms of California, and rather likes the land of fruit and flowers. His numerous friends will be pleased to hear that he is doing well.

It is St. Valentines' day, today, which is a matter of some interest to young and sentimental people looking around for love missives. It also means something to the small boy of wicked tendencies who saves small sums for the purpose of purchasing the grotesque cartoon which reaches the tender spot of the inoffensive citizen. How few have been made really happy by receiving a valentine, how many have been the victims of ill-timed practical jokes will never be known.

The League of American Wheelmen is promoter of a petition to the legislature to urge the committee on roads and bridges to press for legislation providing for the appointment of a commissioner or commissioners of highways and bridges, whose duty shall be the inspection and supervision of all the roads and bridges of the commonwealth and to furnish information and advice to the cities and towns in relation to them. The petition is being circulated in this city by wheelmen and is headed by Mayor Graves.

COAL LACKAWANNA. CHESTNUT.

$7 PER TON.

HARD. SOFT. **WOOD**

8 Baskets Best Hard Wood,	$1.00
10 " Mixed " "	1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord,	5.50
Soft Wood, "	3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord,	4.50
Splints, per bunch,	.05

100 cords dry wood in our sheds ready for delivery. All orders by mail or otherwise promptly delivered.

F. H. ARNOLD,
16 HARWOOD PLACE.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That some doctors think there will be much sickness this spring.

That the market-day question appears to have gone up to Ashby or some other somnambulistic place.

That the snow falling from roofs on to the sidewalk gave more than one citizen a sudden and unexpected load Tuesday.

That the way the court is grinding out liquor cases, this week, looks as though the new administration meant business.

That weather-prophet Beebe's prophecy of a big blizzard came very near being true. Try again, Beebe, and predict fair weather.

That if the mayor and chief of police keep on at the present rate Fitchburg will soon be dry. The mayor kept his promise and was "on hand" at the trials.

That if we may judge by the list of amusements and attractions in our coming events column Lent has come in earnest, or is it the calm before the storm of social events.

That one of the next projects of importance among society men will be the organization of a corporation to build a new, commodious and substantial Odd Fellows' hall. Speed the day.

That the editor of TOWN TALK is out a pound of candy on the result of the gold watch contest, believing that one of the boys would capture the prize. The girls appear to be getting the best of you, boys.

That the society banner, flag etc., contest goes merrily on and votes are coming in steadily every week. Several lodges have just discovered that they require a banner, flag or other article of lodge furniture or paraphernalia.

That the winner of the gold watch is receiving many compliments. It is something to be proud of, not alone for its intrinsic value, but for the honor of being the winner. Several others came near getting it, which is all the more creditable to them and to the winner.

That those who attended the Odd Fellows' reception, Wednesday evening, think the presiding officer has got a wealth of stories applicable to all gatherings and all situations, and he tells them in such a humorous way that his hearers sit and enjoy them as much as they do the speeches.

That the Y. M. C. A. is making a good pace under the secretaryship of Mr. Bishop and deserves encouragement. All classes will admit, that while we all honestly differ upon methods, we are all very generally agreed that the aims and objects of the Association are good and a proper home in which to carry on the work would be a public benefit.

That a hardware-store clerk made a comical mistake, Tuesday. He wrote two letters, one ordering a lot of hardware including drills to drill two inch holes etc., and one to his girl. Man like he put the hardware order into his girl's envelope and the girl's sweet epistle into the hardware firm's envelope and had mailed them before discovering the error.

MISS ANNA C. BURT,
SOLOIST.
TEACHER OF VOCAL MUSIC.
Call or address 14 Payson St. from Tuesday to Saturday of each week.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.
TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.
5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,
TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.
37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS.

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INVESTIGATE
THE : MERITS : OF : OUR
BANNER
ELECTRIC READING LAMP
NICKEL-PLATED, LARGE SIZE, CENTRE DRAFT.
Gives a brilliant and steady light. With Shade complete, at the low price of
$2.42.
COLEMAN & DRURY,
138 MAIN STREET.

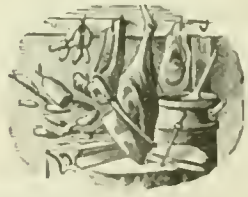
DO YOU USE A
RUBBER STAMP?
IF NOT, WHY NOT?
Do you know how much valuable time you can save by the use of a Rubber Stamp?
We can furnish anything in the stamp line that is made and meet any prices of first-class manufacturers.
We warrant all our work
SECRET SOCIETY GOODS,
RIBBON BADGES for all occasions
STENCILS AND STEEL DIES.
FITCHBURG RUBBER STAMP WORKS,
190 1-2 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

BEST YET!
500 Pounds Chocolates,
17 CTS. PER LB.
FOR SATURDAY ONLY.
E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

LUMBER.
MARTIN WEBBER,
NEWTON PLACE.
Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.
Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.
D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER.

A. R. CHILTON,
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIONS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL ST.

MEAT, POULTRY,
—AND—
GAME



Choicest Meats, Poultry, Fruits, and Vegetables
—AT—
TAGGART'S MARKET,
405 MAIN STREET.
Full line of dried and smoked meats.
Everything of first quality.

While comfortably dozing on my perch a few evenings ago, a down-town raven came up and gave me a dig in the ribs and said: "Roes, wake up; why don't you try your literary flights on the American House barn, if you want to write up dangerous buildings?" and echo and I answered, "Why don't you?" Yes, that is a bad corner. I used to roost in there occasionally, but the confounded place got on fire so often that I got scared. It is doubly dangerous from the nature of its contents and surroundings, and the fact that it is so easy of access to tramps and others. It seems to me it might be cleaned out very profitably. If a good block were erected on the site, fitted up either for apartments or offices, it ought to rent well, it is in such a convenient location, and it would be a great improvement to the street and hotel. I understand Mr. Cumings contemplates making some changes and improvements in his property. Let us hope he will not wait for the fire fiend to clear out the old crib, as it may stand for many years yet.

While I am on this old building subject, let me refer to another matter that needs correcting. Perhaps you are aware that there are a good number of old buildings rented for tenements, some of which are unfit to live in. I have in my mind's eye two or three old places that are in a wretched condition, and yet the owners are able to get good rents, partly because the places are conveniently located and partly because there is a dearth of tenements at reasonable rents, except a good way from the principal streets. I know of places on Main street where the buildings of the kind I refer to are actually in a dangerous condition, and when there is a heavy fall of snow the roofs seem in danger of collapsing, and always leak. The owners won't lay out any money on these places, but I have never yet heard of one being in a comatose state on rent day. Such tenements are certainly unhealthy, and either the board of health or inspector of buildings ought to have, if they have not, authority to inspect such places of residence and compel some one to put them into healthy conditions.

Whew! how some people must lie. That is rather plain and rather blunt, but if you doubt the statement just spend a few mornings in police court. Once in a while I fly into court, and the extraordinary events there often make me wonder if even a wise owl could reason them out. A witness takes the stand, raises his hand and swears to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, with God's help. His testimony will be to the effect that a certain person did and said certain things and committed the offence complained of. Several others testify to the same effect. Then the other side goes through the same formalities and testifies that the person complained of never did anything of the kind, knows nothing about the crime or offence, and is as innocent as a babe. The witnesses on this side have also sworn to tell the truth and nothing but the truth, with God's help, but seemingly some one makes a fruitless attempt to speak the truth. Perjury, you will say, and a serious offence. Very true, but it takes time, money, work and much trouble to run this evidence down and prove that the witnesses deliberately lied. A few sharp prosecutions would serve as warnings to such witnesses, but it is often hard to secure a conviction. Is the oath really worth much after all? I often doubt it.

I see by your paper last week that there is a tendency to raise rents for stores on Main street, and although I am fully aware that it will not have the least effect, I am going to raise my voice in protest. The rents are high enough already, some are much too high, and if the tendency is to continue this indiscriminate raising it is going to hurt the retail trade considerably. I don't say that it has directly anything to do with certain merchants leaving town, but it soon will have if it continues, for I know that many stores are working on very small margins, and they cannot afford to pay more rent. I repeat, some of the stores are not worth the rents paid for them. I know one man who owns considerable property, among which is a number of stores, and some of them have very few accommodations, not even a water closet in some instances, and others owned by the same man are even minus water. It is hard to get some of the landlords to make any repairs, and in many cases when they do make repairs the rent is increased out of proportion. Most of the Main street property is paying well, and that ought to suffice. Why, there are some reckless old shanties on Main street that are paying 25 per cent. over their taxation, shanties that would make Gov. Russell's $4,000 armory blush. It is often urged that taxation is too high. Perhaps it is, and if taxation and rentage go on increasing with kangaroo jumps, in two or three years the goose that lays the golden egg will be killed. Roes Paven would suggest that the Merchants' Association and Board of Trade study this matter in the early future.

I am not "agin" lodges, rather for them, because they do so much good, but there's no denying it, this lodge, order and society business is getting to be a regular mania. Once it was confined to the stern sex, so called, the lords of creation, as they are sometimes termed, but now the women folks are into this lodge business, and they keep it moving everlastingly fast. Only last week the ladies tried their hands at forming another lodge, which will make some ten or a dozen ruled by the petticoats—ahem! excuse me—I mean the softer sex. There are all sorts of lodges, some in which you live to win and others in which you must die to win. I believe in every married man joining one of these, especially the latter, and getting an insurance of $1,000 or $2,000 and then keeping in good standing. It must be a great relief to a family man to know that in his last sickness there will be a friendly brother near, regardless of church or creed, and to know that when he has given the grand hailing sign for the last time and gone to seek admittance into the grand lodge above, there will be a snug little sum left to assist those whom he has left, a sum no one but those it is for can touch. But don't saddle too many Orders on yourself, is a raven's advice. Don't let it take so much of your time and money that you are forced to get trusted for food and clothing. That's silly, and you can't stand it, and then where are you? Yea, verily, you are in the soup.

Roes Paven.

AT THE

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Best grade of Flour at lowest prices.

Canned goods very low.

One can very best California Apricots or Cherries, one can of Peaches, two cans of Tomatoes and two cans of Corn or Peas state Maine packing, for

ONE DOLLAR.

A good can of Peas for 10c. Old Pop Corn, Boxes of choice Boneless Fish, not a bone in it. Nice Butter and Fresh Eggs. New Orleans Molasses.

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Are daily receiving novelties in

DRESS GOODS

Suitable for early spring wear.

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Dry Goods, Cloaks & Millinery,

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FLORAL DESIGN WORK,
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F. O. WILLARD,
FLORIST,
GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.
Telephone 13-3

THE HIGH SCHOOL CONTEST

FOR A GOLD WATCH.

Miss Aura Winifred Johnson

DECLARED THE WINNER.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE CONTEST.

For the encouragement of journalistic talent among pupils attending the Fitchburg High school, on Nov. 8, we made an offer of a gold watch for the best essay or descriptive article or sketch on any local topic or subject submitted before Jan. 31, 1891. The following were the conditions:

The contestants must be pupils of the High school.

The essay or article must be on a subject of strictly local interest.

It must not exceed 1000 words in length —500 perferred.

It must be written on one side of the paper only.

Each contestant will be limited to two contributions.

In response to the offer 28 pupils have competed and 33 essays have been sent in. With two or three exceptions the essays have been very good and are a credit to the scholars and teachers alike. A few essays were submitted for inspection by the younger pupils, and while they do not come up to the excellence of the seniors they are good for the younger pupils. It was to be expected that a senior would win the prize. The following young ladies and gentlemen are represented in the 33 essays sent in:

Minnie M. Webb,	Annie E. Buckley,
Dora G. Streeter,	R. E. Kimball,
Theresa W. Foster,	Lillian A. Phillips,
Maud A. Goodfellow,	Elva D. McIntire,
Henry F. Kinsman,	Francis M. Murray,
Clarence H. Dempsey,	Annie L. Hitchcock,
Frederick W. Fosdick,	Bertha E. Putnam,
M. Harry Hoyt,	Nellie M. Cushing,
Nellie H. Kinsman,	Clayton E. Stone,
Margaret May Slattery,	Fred J. Purtill,
Stella A. Woodward,	Josephine D. Brooks,
Aura W. Johnson,	Leon H. Downe,
Gertrude C. Stowe,	John Francis McGrath,
Edward S. Malone,	Arthur A. Macurda.

A few have disregarded some of the conditions such as writing on both sides of the paper and exceeding the number of words allowed. Others have disregarded the first condition and picked subjects that could not be considered of "Strictly local interest." For instance, the essay on "Ireland and the Irish," an excellently written essay by Edward S. Malone, and "A Hunting Sketch" and "The English Sparrow" by R. E. Kimball were ruled out simply on this ground. Not knowing who the authors were the judges highly complimented both writers and regretted that the conditions laid down barred the essays out. Each essay was numbered in the order in which it was received and the name torn off before being submitted to the judges. When deciding upon the winner two of the judges declared the winner was a boy and after coming to this office to learn who No. 12 was one judge was surprised to find that a girl could write so wittily on the mischievous effects of "tanglefoot." The following essays also received special notice; "The Nichols Estate as a Public Park," by Maud A. Goodfellow; "Fitchburg in the Future," by Henry F. Kinsman; "What the High School is doing for Fitchburg," by Clarence H. Dempsey; "Old Rollstone," by Margaret May Slattery; "A Public Gynasium," by Annie L. Hitchcock; "The Value of the Wallace Library" by Josephine D. Brooks; "Our Need of a Public Park," by John Francis McGrath; "The Books we Read," by Gertrude C. Stowe, and "A Few Changes," by Dora G. Streeter.

This article is the first intimation given to the judges of the list of competitors. We take this opportunity of publicly thanking them for their interest and labors, and also thank the teachers at the High school for their interest in urging the pupils to show their abilities. They have been anxious that the pupils would do themselves credit and Mr. Chapin is deserving of special thanks for publicly placing before the pupils subjects upon which to write. We congratulate Miss Johnson upon her success and promise the pupils of the High school a still wider contest at no distant date. Keep watch of TOWN TALK for particulars.

THE PRIZE ESSAY.

A STRANGER'S IMPRESSION OF FITCHBURG.

I was born and raised "out West." As I had reached middle life with little recreation and few holidays and had never travelled very much, I decided to make a trip to New England. My plan was to visit nearly all the largest cities and several of the principal manufacturing places, for I was interested in manufacturing and it was really to investigate eastern manufactures that I was going to make this trip.

I had heard that Fitchburg was a flourishing town doing quite a large manufacturing business, as it had many factories, which had helped to build up the place; therefore it was one of the first places at which I stopped.

I knew the city was situated upon the Nashua river, and, as we approached the

city in the cars, was looking for a stream worthy of that name, but I was greatly surprised on being informed by a fellow passenger that the little stream that I had been calling a creek, which I supposed flowed into the main river father on, was the river itself.

I found the city very picturesquely situated upon several hills. The thought came to me that Rome would have been a very appropriate name for it, as it was built, like that ancient city, upon the "Everlasting Hills." One of these hills especially seemed to command notice, it was so abruptly outlined against the western sky. I ascertained that this hill, called Rollstone, was composed almost entirely of granite, and that there were quarries there extensively worked; in fact, it might be said that this hill was the corner-stone of Fitchburg, because it had furnished foundations for nearly every building it the city.

A person, I believe, if he is about to visit a new place, always forms some conception of it before he arrives there. My conception of Fitchburg was a city well laid out with broad, straight streets crossing each other at right angles, along each side of which there would be beautiful wide-spreading shade trees, and with large public parks, where, during the summer evenings after a weary day's work, one might sit and be refreshed by listening to the beautiful strains of music from the Fitchburg Band, which I knew was the pride of the city, and where in winter the young people might skate to their hearts' content and coast without encroaching upon the public highway.

But alas for my dream! What streets I saw! My first thought was that the engineer who laid out Main street must have partaken too freely of "tangle-foot," or that he expected the people would not be able to walk in a straight street from the same cause; but upon inquiry I learned that the city was a temperance place, so of course I could not ascribe the crookedness and varying width of the street to that cause.

Where were my beautiful shade trees and public parks? All that I saw were unsightly poles on each side of the street and as for the public parks, I thought I would inquire my way to one. I was told that all the parks the city possessed were that little plot of grass near the depot, where the only ornamental feature seemed to be a band-stand and signs, which said "Keep off the Grass," and a similar plot of grass at the upper end of the city, which was a little larger and had a very handsome fountain donated to the city by some of the public-spirited citizens.

The next morning I set out to "do" the city. The public buildings, although they were not as numerous as might be expected in a city of Fitchburg's size, yet they were all substantially built, some of them being quite elegant. I was especially pleased with the Wallace Library and Art building, both with the exterior and interior. The city seemed well supplied with churches and school-houses, although the latter were somewhat crowded.

As I was wandering rather aimlessly up Main street, a run-away horse came tearing down the street and the man who was in the carriage was thrown out. I stopped, thinking I would wait until the ambulance came up and follow it to the City Hospital, for I had not yet run across any such building; but what was my astonishment to see someone lift the injured man into an express wagon and then stop to discuss where he should be carried. I asked a by-stander if there was not a City Hospital, and he replied that there was one *talked of.*

During my stay, I visited as many of the factories, mills and shops, as my limited time would allow. I visited the large Paper Mills at West Fitchburg, which surprised me greatly by their magnitude, as they are among the largest in the country. The Cotton and Woolen Mills I also found were doing an extensive business. With the well-appointed machine-shops, I did not wonder that their machinery had gained a national reputation.

While on my way to the depot to take my departure, I was startled by an alarm of fire, hardly had it ceased, when the Fire Department came, at a break-neck speed, down the street. So quickly was the fire under control and so well and systematically was everything done that I little thought that nearly all the firemen had gathered, in so shot a time, from shops, mills, etc., at the call of duty.

On the whole I was quite favorably impressed with the "little city among the hills," and I thought if some of the citizens, who had sent their money away to be invested in western mining interests, or to boom southern timber lands, had invested nearer home, the city might have been made one of the most picturesque and beautiful in all New England, as it had such great natural beauty.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

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And lay away for another Winter.

IT WILL PAY YOU

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Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

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FEBRUARY 14, 1891.

The World's Fair seems to be proving something of a white elephant to Chicago, and unless the committee soon get to business in earnest, the rest of the world will think it fair to assume that Chicago is not the enterprising city it makes out to be. The ways and means committee now makes another call for a small sum, this time only $5,000,000. It is said that the payments of money already promised do not come in so fast as expected, and are not so numerous as the good of the cause demands. It is to be hoped that the required support will be forthcoming in time for the commissioners to perfect all details so that the fair will be a credit to that city and to the country.

* * *

According to the daily papers, Henry M. Stanley of African fame has decided to give to Gen. Booth of the Salvation Army all the gifts that he has received from the crowned heads of Europe. These gifts are valued at half a million dollars, and this sum is to be used in the cause of the poor of London, as set forth by Gen. Booth in his "Darkest England." If the report is true it is a generous gift and will encourage others possessed of an abundance of this world's wealth to give liberally to the same cause. The report is denied, however, almost before the ink is dry. Few persons believed it. There is much doubt, however, among those competent to judge of Gen. Booth's scheme, as to its practicability, even if the sum asked for is raised. Self-help is a factor of importance after being lifted from the dregs, and there are thousands in all civilized countries who cannot or will not try it, no matter how much is done for them.

The question of furniture appropriate for a bar-room is under consideration at the State house. The dealers want the tables removed, and because they want it, a multitude, some consistently and some inconsistently, oppose it. The counsel for the dealers, at the legislative hearing, declared that they realize the terrible evils of intemperance, but "their object is to sell liquor in such a way as to conduce to the best interests of the community." There will be a wide diversity of opinion about this part of it, however. Liquor selling, while a legal occupation in many places, is not regarded as a philanthropic occupation. Query, why would it not be best to put the matter to a vote and let the people decide the question?

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366 Main Street,

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Diamonds,
Jewelry.

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SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES.

366 Main St., Corner Central St.

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired.

ALFRED DOLGE

FELT SLIPPERS,

ALSO A FULL LINE OF

CHRISTMAS SLIPPERS!

For Ladies and Gents.

We put the Wilson Clasp on all Lace Boots we sell, free of charge. Try them.

All Goods Warranted as represented.

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CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,
185 Main St.

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CARRIAGE PAINTER,
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337 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.
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25 TO 29 DAY STREET.
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BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.
For Ladies and Gentlemen.
First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.
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LIVERY, BOARDING
—AND—
SALE STABLE.

GUY WOODS, Proprietor,
ACADEMY ST., - REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.
First-class Horses and Carriages for hire. Orders promptly attended to. Accommodation for fifty horses. Best care and feed at all times.

GUY WOODS,
REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

For the next Thirty Days we shall offer

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—IN—

MEN'S, BOYS' & CHILDREN'S

OVER COATS CAPE
AND ULSTERS.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

Chamberlain,
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To close out a few lines of Cloaks, we shall make some ridiculously low prices.

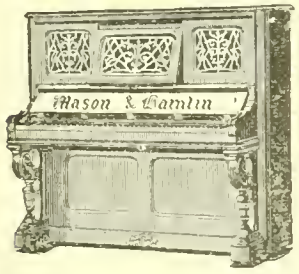
We have taken all our Cloth Jackets, formerly sold at $5 and $6, shall close at $2.59.

All Cloth Jackets, former prices $7.50 to $10, closing price $5.

We have about 40 Newmarkets we shall sell at just one-half former prices.

Special Bargains in every department of our store.

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.



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157 MAIN STREET. 157

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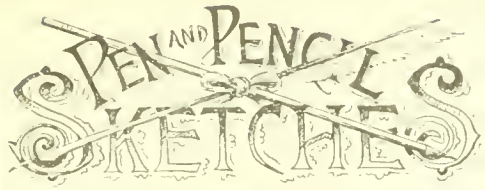

Among the sporting fraternity No. 48 and 49 are well known and the sketches given last week made quite a number guess O. K. at first sight: No. 48 is Herbert D. McIntire. No. 49 is Ernest N. Cummings.

No. 50 is now a disciple of Edison and although he does not equal that distinguished gentleman he is a man of many ideas and inventive notions. Very few men manage to gain wealth out of inventions, some do it, but it is the exception rather than the rule. After the war No. 50 spent some time in perfecting several different inventions of his, but does not appear to have hit upon anything of a fortunate nature. I cannot tell whether he ever tried to solve the mystery of perpetual motion or not, probably not, but he spent some time in endeavoring to place something before the public which would result in mutual advantage. It is no discredit that he has not succeeded, a man may try hard and work long to perfect some particular idea and still not be able to achieve success, the world has seen numberless examples of this kind. He came across the seas when young and for many years went to school in the little red school-house at South Fitchburg. When he left school the "Duck" mill received him with open arms—or perhaps open doors—and for some years he helped to turn out "duck." When the war broke out he joined "the boys in blue" and fought like the *divil* for the stars and stripes. When he came back he was in poor health for some time, but recovering he followed various callings for awhile. At one time he presided over the destinies of a small restaurant and later embarked in a little saloon in company with a friend. He did not deal out the exhilarating bowl long, however, but went back to his mechanical work. The result is that he is now only comfortably well off while his former partner, who followed the "spiritual" business, is rich. No. 50 is well-known in another line, he is one of the moving spirits in Gideon's Band. This is an institution of a novel kind and if it is your good fortune to be present at an entertainment where this band furnishes music you will recognize the long head and smiling face of No. 50. He is a good-natured, straightforward and honest man and always willing to "chip in" and do a good turn for some one in need. Who is No. 50?

It is no use trying to disguise this subject. He is so well-known and so well liked that I presume three-fourths of those who read this will pick him out at first sight. He is a young fellow, of slight build, dark complexion and striking features, with sharp, piercing eyes. His father was a native of sunny Italy; his mother was an English lady. His father was an expert with foils and gave lessons in their use. His mother was an opera singer of note. His father met his death, I believe, in Montreal while fencing. The man with whom he was fencing struck the button from the end of his foil, and making a pass at our subject's father, accidentally caused his death. If being born in a country makes a man a native, our friend is an American, a Hubite, for he was born on the banks of the Charles. He came here some 10 or 12 years ago and commenced working in Leominster. After a while he became a draughtsman in one of our largest machine shops. He is a skilful man and has drawn the plans for some of our Main street blocks. He is a natural-born musician, and is as full of melody as an egg is full of meat. You and I have often listened to his performances in city hall and applauded him to the echo, but if you could hear his original rendition of "Flee, as a Bird," or "The Heart Bowed Down," which, by the way, he gives as "The Horse Boiled Down," you would come pretty near having convulsions. I will not relate more than one of his fishing exploits, and his drowning accidents I will keep quiet, but they would make you smile. He once went fishing with a native of the "Faderland," who has a very fine and amiable daughter. When out in the pond they ordered the light-weighted German to pull up the anchor, which he did, managing to fall overboard at the same time. Instead of leaving go of the anchor rope he kept hold of it and—set the example for McGinty. When he came to the top he beseeched No. 51 to pull him into the boat. Now No. 51 had no more idea of matrimony than the man in the moon, but a mischievous streak happened to run through him at that moment, and knowing that the Dutchman was in no danger, before he pulled him in he made him promise to give him (our subject) his daughter in marriage and several other things before he landed the poor fellow into the boat. When he is in the right frame of mind he would make you laugh at his comical performances on two pianos at one time, his extraordinary vocal abilities and extremely funny antics. His funny doings in the band and at Cottage City I will leave for another time.

Send in your votes for the banner and help your lodge win it.

(Commenced in Vol. II, No. 4. Back numbers on hand.)

THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

In 12 chapters.—Copyright, 1891. All rights reserved by the author.

CHAPTER IV.

THE HIDDEN FACE.

Edward Warfield did not awake until a late hour that morning, simply because when dawn came to dispel the vagaries of his imagination he experienced a full sense of his weariness in mind and body.

He ate breakfast alone. James was up while he slept, and had taken an early ride into Fitchburg to attend some necessary business.

"Did he go alone?" Edward asked of Miss Pond, who, while waiting upon him at the table, showed a willingness to answer his questions.

"*She* went with him," said the woman, with a shrug in keeping with the emphasis in her tones.

"Miss Fenlow?"

"Of course. He would have to have one or t'other of 'em. He couldn't draw one breath after another without one on 'em by to see if he drawed it straight."

"She is a very pretty young lady," ventured Mr. Warfield, who was too scrupulous to actually question a hireling in the family about his brother's doings.

"Pretty enough if anybody mind to think so, I s'pose," was the retort.

"I think she is uncommonly pretty," persisted the guest, reflectively buttering his toast.

Miss Pond shrugged her shoulders and flirted into the kitchen. Presently she came back.

"What do you think of him?" she asked, in a sibilant whisper, coming quite close to Warfield's chair.

"You mean my brother?"

"'Tain't likely I'd ask sich a question. I'm no mischief-maker betwixt relations. I mean her father?"

"Mr. Fenlow? Oh, yes. He is very pleasant. I suppose he isn't quite well from his hurt yet."

"Well as you be, in my opinion."

"Yes? But he carries a cane, and he doesn't seem strong. Still, he may be more robust than he looks. A great many are."

"Good land! I don't care anything about his health. I wa'n't asking about that at all. He's got more health than he deserves, to my mind. I think he's the devil, to speak plain and not wicked."

Edward looked up into the plain face of Miss Pond and smiled. He wheeled his chair away from the table and held out his hand, which the woman took in a silent, significant way, while a smile showed that she had lost two front teeth, while it made exactly four deep wrinkles around one side of her mouth and only one on the other.

"You have spoken none too plainly and not at all wickedly," said Edward rising.

"I'm glad there's one in the house that I can speak plain to," said Miss Pond fervently.

"Where is Mr. Fenlow this morning?"

"Nobody knows. He ate breakfast with your brother. He always does. Then she come down. She is always lady-like, I'll say that for her. If it wan't for her bein' a Spiritualist I could abide her better."

"Does she claim to hold the belief which goes by the name of Spiritualism?"

"She says she doesn't."

"And still she practices their manifestations?"

"You see what she did last night. I dunno what to make of it all. She told me things about my early life that I didn't s'pose any living soul but myself knew of. I wouldn't have given anybody a hint on't more'n I cut my fingers off."

"She went into a trance, I suppose?"

"Yes, and when she gets through she always looks as if she'd had a fit o' sickness. It's queer works and I don't think there's any good in't. One night when she was tryin' the table-tippin' she'd ask questions and the table would spell out all sorts of answers, if somebody would say over the alphabet to it. And both she and your brother asked if it was God's works or the devil's, and the thing would spell out the devil every time, so I guess it told the truth that time, if it never did afore."

"I have heard of such things, and they are not worthy of the time that is spent upon them. There are natural causes, though they may not be fully understood, but there is something I would like to ask you. Do you know which lamp I carried to my room last night?"

"The one that's always there, I suppose. We keep one already filled and cleaned in that room all the time, and I lighted it myself last night."

"Have you seen it this morning?"

"I haven't noticed. You didn't bring it down and I didn't. I'll look in the kitchen and see if it's there. I don't see how you could lose it, I declare."

Miss Pond went into the kitchen and returned with the lamp in her hand.

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"The ile is all burnt out and it must have been burning all night," she declared.

"Quite possibly it did burn all night," was Mr. Warfield's non-committal reply, and he sauntered from the dining-room without further explanation, leaving Miss Pond to puzzle her wits over his curiosity concerning so small a matter as a lamp.

For an hour or more he wandered about the grounds—for it had ceased raining—with an idle curiosity to see the familiar spots and note the little changes which the lapse of time brings to everything.

An elm which he remembered carrying on his shoulders and setting out near the orchard wall, surprised him with its towering stature and the mature dignity with which it waved its spreading branches in the breeze. An apple tree near it, in which the turkeys used to roost, had been split in twain by a winter's storm, and a scraggly, one-sided torso was all that remained. A portion of the wall itself had been taken away, and Edward noticed that an old well, into which he used to drop pebbles, had been filled up and grassed over.

"I suppose nature has made greater changes up in the pastures and wood-lots," he mused. He had half a mind to follow a certain well-known path which, as he remembered it, led through a dense, woody bower to a huge rock-maple, near which was a spring of delicious water.

He could see the towering top of the great tree and was pleased to see that this wood monarch of the farm had not been sacrificed.

"And of course the spring is there. They can't shift such things around so easily," he thought.

But at the moment he saw a dark figure coming down that very path, and with a feeling that the old resort had been forever desecrated, he recognized Mr. Fenlow.

The man wore a slouch hat and the black shawl, which he seemed to prefer because it made him look more disagreeable.

Warfield would have gladly avoided him could he have done so by any ruse, but that was impossible. The man advanced, limping a trifle and leaning upon his cane.

"Looking over the old place?" he asked in the most agreeable voice the other had heard him use.

"A little. I had nothing else to do until James returned."

"And you find a great many changes, I dare say?"

"Yes. I expected them."

"A pity to have these New England farms run down so, isn't it? They have been the cradles of the best people in the country."

"I wasn't aware that they were running down—at least, not the best of them. Of course the railroads centralize business along their lines. That cannot be avoided."

"True, but I mean the influence that go out of the old homesteads. They vitalize the best blood. The social influence is purer, for they are the true homes. What is a city tenement or flat with steam radiators and furnace pipes compared to the big fire-places and family hearth-stones? Who is it that asks if one can call up any poetry or hallowed associations around a hole in the floor?"

Warfield indulged a grimace which he took no pains to conceal from the black, shadowy individual confronting him. He was in no mood for poetry, especially in such a presence. He disliked prosy platitudes from any source.

"Now that I see you," he said with an abrupt change of tone, "I will speak again of the matter of which you spoke to me last night. The more I think of it the more fully convinved do I become that as a guest in my brother's household you have overstepped your rights in broaching such a subject to me, or even in presuming to offer him advice. If you were an old friend of the family it would be different. But what does he or I know about you? Are you a gentleman or an adventurer? How have you made your living? Whom are your friends? A man can't expect to travel about the country and be taken into the confidence of respectable people unless he gives some guarantee of his own respectability. As I understand it, you have done nothing of the kind. You have merely presumed upon his kindness and credulity to secure a comfortable berth for yourself. I am a blunt man, and will say to you plainly that, while my brother is at liberty to act in the matter as he thinks best, I shall emphatically advise him to ask you to go."

While Edward Warfield was speaking Mr. Fenlow did not stir, nor did his countenance show the faintest trace of emotion. There might have been a darker gleam in his eyes, but if there was the broad brim of his hat concealed it.

"I'm sorry to have you say that, Mr. Warfield," was Mr. Fenlow's slowly uttered response after a brief interval of silence.

"I presume you are sorry," was the reply.

"And," continued Fenlow mildly, "while you imply that I may have interfered in matters that do not concern me, it is possible that your brother may not feel bound to follow your advice in his affairs. I suppose that he knows why he allows me to stay, and that if he has any interests at stake he will not allow any prejudice of yours to interfere. That is all, Mr. War-

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
LAMP.

JENNISON, THE PLUMBER.

SOLE AGENT

MAGEE MYSTIC.

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field. Do not think I am angry. I can see that you are disappointed, and it is natural that you should attribute any change which you may find to the interlopers in your brother's household, but I—we—know why we stay and your brother also knows why he keeps me—us."

Fenlow's tones certainly did not betray anger. Warfield wished they had. He would have welcomed a pretext for an open quarrel with this man, and the feeling grew stronger each time he looked at him.

Fenlow turned away and slowly limped toward the house. He seemed to be quite feeble, and comparing his unsteady steps with his own superabundant vigor of body Edward Warfield felt a pang of regret at his own show of anger. He felt almost as though it had been cowardly in him to so vent a sense of personal spite upon one who was, after all, possibly in need of friendly offices.

"He isn't a prepossessing man, and I doubt if he has any more friends than he knows what to do with," was Edward's thought.

He strolled up the path toward the spring, but changed his purpose before reaching the large tree and retraced his steps to the house. There he found Saadi Fenlow standing on the porch, her face the picture of animated loveliness. The pallid hue of the evening before had given place to the tints of youth and health. The drooping eyes were now round and full of vivacity.

"Your brother called you a sluggard this morning," she exclaimed as Edward paused upon the steps.

"Did he? and does your mentioning the fact imply that you agree with him in his opinion?" the guest returned, his coolness melted away in an instant by the sunny looks of Saadi.

"No. I told him you had a belated journey and that you needed sleep. I tried hard to excuse you, but you really would have enjoyed the ride. There was a sting in the air at seven o'clock which has grown insipid now."

"You like pungent things, then, like frost and—and wit," said Warfield, looking at her in his steady way which seemed to imply that he wished to make up his mind whether to like her or not, and did not care to conceal his purpose.

"Yes, if they do not bite too keenly. Of the two I like frost best. Wit sometimes stings too cruelly, and it will penetrate to the warmest fireside where frost can never approach. Did you see my father? It is the hour for his 'constitutional,' which he takes with the utmost punctuality."

"I think he has returned a little ahead of me."

"And you were not out together?"

"We met out by the orchard wall, but I lingered behind."

Saadi bent a quick, questioning glance at Edward's face, but out of her hypnotic state she appeared to have very little power of penetration.

"I hope you will be friends," she said earnestly. "Your brother says you used to be quite a student, and in that you and father should be congenial comrades. He is fairly mouldy with ancient lore. You should visit his room which your brother has kindly fitted up for him. His library abounds in the quaint and curious in literature, and he is about to begin some chemical experiments which, as I tell him, are elaborate enough to compound an elixir of life."

"I am not a student of the mouldy sort," said Warfield.

"Mine was a mere figure of speech in that respect, so far as he is concerned. He does not confine himself to the ancient philosophers. The movements of today are equally interesting to him, only he says that there is very little that is really new, and he likes to go to original sources for his learning. But I cannot make you understand the depths and heights which he probes and ascends in his mental labors. I am a very simple-minded girl indeed, and a constant source of vexation to one with his studious mind."

"How about your own peculiar gifts? If your father is scientific he must hold a positive opinion concerning such things."

Saadi's face lost its brightness with a suddenness that made the other wish he had not broached the subject.

"He has never told me what he thought of it," she replied.

"Then it was not by his suggestion that you began the practices?"

"Yes, he suggested it—taught me how, in fact."

"Then he is an adept in the same singular powers?"

"No. He had studied the subject, but was not himself a suitable medium—to use a term which others use, but which does not imply that I believe in supernatural influences."

"And he induced you to try?"

"Yes, and I proved to have a remarkable aptitude."

"In other words, he used you as a medium for carrying out his experiments in the psychical field?"

"Yes. I am willing to do it, of course, and the power seems to be one that may be used for great good."

"How?"

"In prediction and discovery."

"Of missing heifers and the like?"

"Yes, though that was only a test. I have done other things more substantial in results."

"Have you ever divined a useful or valuable truth?"

"Yes."

"For whom?"

"Your brother."

"Concerning the disposal of this estate?"

"Yes."

"Then you surely ought to be able to learn who the purchaser is."

"That is not clear to me. There are things which come out distinctly like some parts of a vivid dream. Others are vague and difficult to interpret. That is precisely the way in which such revelations come to me. I seem to be in a semi-unconscious state, with all sorts of vagaries flitting through my brain. A question asked, a name spoken, anything, will cause the vague fancies to concentrate upon that one subject. Sometimes they are like objects, at first dimly seen in a faint light, and then suddenly brought out under the intense rays of a calcium. Then they fade again. Some subjects never show plainly. In comparing the conditions and sensations to those of sleeping dreams I am perfectly representing to you my experience at such times. The only difference seems to

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be that a dream is almost always a vagary, founded either upon a waking experience and a distorted repetition of it, else excited by bodily discomfort of some sort, while the trance visions appear to be a reflection, more or less distinct, of actual events and scenes of which I may know absolutely nothing in a natural state."

Edward Warfield found this frank, logical statement from Saadi's lips, uttered in the open air and with the sunlight all about them, very different from the impressions of the previous evening. In this there was no apparent straining after effect, none of the mystical motions or attitudes, which in so-called "spiritual circles" always savor so strongly of the conjuror's art. Warfield had witnessed such exhibitions and had privately set down the operators as either arrant frauds or fanatical victims of self-delusion.

But Saadi Fenlow was not a fraud, nor was she of the sort to be easily deluded.

"You do not make your power out to be such a black art as operators usually do," said Warfield, feeling that the simple straightforwardness of this girl deserved some recognition.

"I have no need to make pretentions, for it is as mysterious to me as to others."

"You say you have not been able to make out the name of the purchaser of James' property?"

"No."

"Have you made more than one attempt?"

"I have tried several times. I have seen the purchaser's hands, and once they held the money which was paid on the day of the sale. On his right hand he wore a seal ring unlike any I have ever seen, but his face seemed to be concealed by a mist."

"Do you recollect the visions after coming out of your trance state?"

"Sometimes, as one remembers a dream. At others equally vivid impressions fade the instant I awake, as is sometimes the case with the dreams of normal sleep."

"A peculiar seal ring," repeated Warfield in the pause that followed. It gradually occurred to him that he had lately seen or dreamt of some one who wore a noticeable ring.

"When was it, and where?" he asked himself.

James came in from the stable at that moment and all went into the house. After dinner Edward went up to his sleeping-room, and noticed the lamp neatly trimmed and filled on the table. This was not all that he saw. A gold, seal ring, of an odd device, lay beside the lamp.

He examined the trinket with a vague feeling that his bedroom was haunted by an unseen presence.

When he returned to the lower rooms he carried the ring, and soon found an opportunity to show it to Saadi.

She took it with a cry of surprise.

"It is the ring I saw on the hand of the unknown!" she exclaimed.

"Then I will find the wearer!" said Edward, grimly compressing his lips.

(To be continued.)

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LOCAL TIME TABLE.

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Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1 05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, †3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at †7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, †8.10 and 11.30 a. m., †2.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at †4.50 p. m.

†Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

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SUNDAY SERVICES

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First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; last day in the series of special services. 10 a.m., German service with sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30 service of worship with sermon by Rev. R. S. Underwood, 12 m., Bible School; 4, Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, service of worship with sermon by Rev. R. S. Underwood. It is expected that the sermon of last Sunday on "The Religious Bearings of the Amusement Question" will be repeated at 3 p. m. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "God's Word Tried and Purified;" Sunday School at 12 m.; evening service, 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Holy communion at 9 a. m.; Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's Epworth meeting at 6 p. m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by Rev. R. A. White, subject, "The Final Authority in Religion;" Sunday School at 12 m.; young people's service at 6 p.m.; at 7 p. m., sermon by Rev. W. H. Pierson, subject, "The Bible as Literature." All are welcome.

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by Rev. L. M Keneston of Ashburnham; Sunday School 12 m.; People's service 7 p. m., sermon by Rev. L. M. Keneston.

"World Wide" Salvation Army, barracks at 190½ Main street, rear entrance on Crescent street. Services at 11 a. m., 3 and 8 p. m., Capt. Caldwell, leader All cordially invited.

Railroad Men's meeting at Red Men's hall, 239½ Main street, at 5 p. m.

Y. M. C. A. Bible training class in Association rooms, from 9.15 to 10.15 a. m. Meeting for men at 4 p. m.

East Street Mission Sunday School will meet at 3 p. m. All are welcome.

SPECIAL SALE

—OF—

Winter and Shopworn

GOODS

At a Great Reduction.

You can save from 25c. to $1.50 a pair on these goods.

D. H. PIERCE'S

CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,

185 Main St.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

We are HEADQUARTERS for everything in the line of MILLINERY, from a Baby's Bonnet for 25 cts. to a Lady's Hat for $10.

At No. 224, which is connected with the main store, we carry Hosiery, Gloves, Corsets, Underwear, Fancy Goods, Notions, etc.

We sell goods low for cash only.

Our customers know we use them well. We will do the same by you. We are agents for Lewando's French Dye House of Boston, the best in the country. We have sent 969 packages since taking the agency about three years ago.

We send Tuesdays and Fridays.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

BROWNELL & MASON,

PLUMBING AND HEATING,

158 MAIN ST.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

5-lb. Boxes Vermont Butter, 27c. per lb.

Canned Sweet Corn, 10c. per can.

Canned Tomatoes, 10c. per can.

Canned Peas, 2 cans for 25c.

10 Bars Cobb's Borax Soap and Cottage Hearth Magazine for six months for $1.00.

Old Caldwell Coffee, 38c. per lb.

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FIFTH

ENTERTAINMENT,

AT CITY HALL.

THURSDAY EV'G. FEB. 19.

LECTURE

—BY—

Ex-Gov. Will Cumback,

OF INDIANA.

Subject, "The Common Man."

From President Ben. Harrison.

Col. Cumback is one of the most popular speakers in our state. His style as a lecturer is clear, racy, and attractive. He comes at once upon good terms with his audience and is always instructive and interesting.

ADMISSION, 25 cts.

RESERVED SEAT, 35 cts.

COURSE TICKETS

With reserved seat, for this and the GRAND CLOSING CONCERT on MARCH 13th

ONLY 50 CTS.

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Plumbers and Steam Fitters.

FINE SANITARY PLUMBING

A SPECIALTY.

LABOR PERFORMED BY SKILLED WORKMEN.

171 MAIN ST.

Leominster Breezes

THEY SAY

That we get more pairs of twins here to the square inch than any town in the commonwealth.

That Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Harwood started for California last Wednesday, where they will remain a few months.

That our two new grocery stores are models of beauty and convenience, and make a great addition to that line of trade in town.

That some of the people who have made lots of talk in town for the past few weeks have left us bag and baggage, and that we shall have no more to say in relation to them.

That the old folks' ball seems to be the great attraction as a coming event. That a number will be present from adjoining towns and the best of times is anticipated.

That the lecture by Julia Ward Howe, owing to the very stormy weather, did not draw the audience that the lecture and lecturer would warrant, but those who did brave the storm were well repaid for their trouble.

That poor Benton thinks himself a much abused man because his name appeared in print. How much worse he would have felt if the part of Cook's speech which brought in his name had been left out of the report altogether.

That the little hoodlums who insist in disturbing everything that comes to the town hall in the shape of a show are fast getting themselves into serious trouble. That an example must be made of a few of them before the trouble will be stopped.

That our Board of Trade is fast coming to the front, and that once started under good organization its success is assured, as there is just the right class of men among the signers to make a "go" of almost anything they attempt. That a meeting will soon be called and the Board organized.

That every one seems to be perfectly satisfied, with one exception, with the adoption of the Australian system, and we all have faith enough to believe that it will prove to be the best plan ever conceived for town elections. It is not necessary to keep the polls open more than four hours, and if they are kept open until two o'clock it will be sufficient. The rails could then be removed and the town business could be carried on as usual, so that all the hue and cry about the hall not being large enough is all bosh. The caucus will have to be held some earlier than usual, as it will be necessary to give the nominations to the town clerk at least eight days before the election.

That the agent of the society with the long name has done some good strokes of work the past week, and proved that he was not afraid to look into every case and challenge the offenders. No more will be heard of the cruelty to the poor old horse, and we notice that the dog which a few weeks ago was dragging an overgrown boy through the streets does not pursue his occupations as before.

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Ranges!

Carpets!

Crockery!

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50 Day Street.

CHAS. E. KIRBY,

AGENT.

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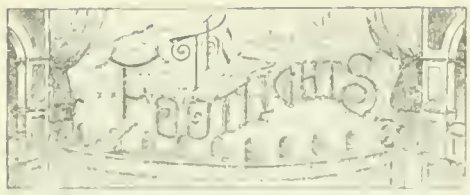

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

Two Old Cronies is faring well in the West.

"Thou Shalt Not" is to be dramatized next.

Minnie Palmer has caught on with her new play, "A Mile a Minute."

Dixey will soon replace "The Seven Ages" with a new burlesque called "Louis XI."

James T. Powers in "A Straight Tip" has been drawing crowded houses in New York city.

Roland Reed has made an immense hit in the South with his newest play, "Lend Me Your Wife."

Sadie Martinot was the recipient of at least a cart-load of flowers during the run of Dr. Bill in Boston.

Fanny Davenport was called out 14 times in Boston the other night at the end of the fourth act of "Cleopatra."

The veteran actor, Charles Couldock, is generally seen with a toy under his arm, carrying the article home to his grandchild.

Lydia Thompson made a big hit recently in New York in "The Dazzler." It is funny how tastes differ. No one in this section thought much of the piece.

Mr. Henry E. Dixey is handsomely entertained by a large number of prominent people in nearly all the places he visits. He is a member of the Mystic Shrine.

Mr. Selden Irwin, an old actor and manager, is dead. He leaves a widow, who was at one time a Boston actress, and who is now with Stuart Robson's company.

Mr. Thomas E. Shea has been beating his last season's record on the Pennsylvania circuit in spite of the fact that the general business in that part of the country is not good.

There is a story that Miss Kate Claxton is organizing a big company to play "The Two Orphans" straight through to the Pacific coast, where time is booked at the Grand opera house, San Francisco. Among those spoken of for this combination are Mrs. McKee Rankin, for her old character of Henrietta; Wilton Lackaey, for the Chevalier, and Charles Stevenson for the character of Jacques.

"The County Fair" is having the same phenomenal success in New York as fell to "The Old Homestead."

Richard Mansfield will have three new plays next season, "Don Juan," "The Man Without a Shadow" and "Charles II."

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

Large and appreciative audiences greeted Mr. and Mrs. Kendall at the Hollis street theatre this week. The play has been "The Squire" and next week "All for Her" will occupy the first half and "The Weaker Sex" the latter half of the week. The company is made up of excellent artists.

At the Park theatre Ship Ahoy closes its fifth week tonight and is still booming. It is a long time since the Park accomodated such tickled audiences and J. M. Hill adds another success to his long list. The hits are good and it is one of the best comic operas seen in several years.

Hoytism is rampant in Hoyt's latest production "A Trip to China-town," which the author modestly describes as "a musical trifle" is packing the big Boston theatre every night. The audiences remind one of "The Soudan." The piece is like the multitude of light plays constructed simply for amusement regardless of plot. The only plot to it is something similiar to that of "The Pink Domino" but adapted to American life instead of English. The company is a good one and the piece is worth a visit. It runs for one or two weeks longer.

The critics at the Hub in speaking of Dixey's "Seven Ages" now in progress at the Globe theatre say that but for the hero himself the play would be "sans everything." That is rather hard on the well-selected and comely troupe of female artists Dixey has with him. Still, it is true, but in spite of this "Seven Ages" will draw good houses while it remains there. The piece shows off to much greater advantage than it did here.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Only fair-sized audiences witnessed the two performances of "The Great Metropolis," at the opera house, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and with the exception of a very few hitches, the scenic features were given in good shape. Of the dramatic work, only praise can be given. Harry Weaver, Jr., as "Will Webster," made the most of several strong situations, while Forrest Robinson, as "Jack Holt," and Clarence Heritage, as "Walter Mowbray," were all that could be desired in their parts—honest man and villain. Capt. James, the famous life-saver, appeared as advertised, but owing to the darkness covering the shipwreck scene, it was difficult to realize what part he performed in the rescue. The play in all its details is a good melodrama and was staged and operated far better than the average spectacular plays given here. The piece deserved large houses both evening.

Three attractions call for attention next week. On Monday Billy Lester and Paul Allen's *vaudeville* combination appears. This company is made up of brilliant and clever artists, including Annie Hart, a vocalist of ability; Prof. Seeman with his "Electra," a sensational mystery; Hilton, the contortionist; the two Highleys, musical artists; Adolph, the magician; Master Lubin, violinist; Mdme Albertina, with her prismatic phantasma, and the two proprietors.

On Friday evening Sol Smith Russell will be here and will no doubt appear in the presentation of "A Poor Relation." Mr. Russell has visited this city previously and is probably well remembered in connection with the Boston Museum company. He will present a good play and will probably have a good house.

On Saturday evening the stage will be given over to the melodies of minstrelsy and Atkinson & Cook's company will present an attractive program. The company includes some of the best artists on the road and boasts of a new bill of attractions. Three hours fun is what the company promises and judging by the amount of talent advertised there will be an excellent performance. The misfortunes of Sitting Bull offered a chance to make an amusing comedy and the company has a new hit entitled "Sitting Bull's Last Shot," which portrays the thrilling escapades of a Tenderfoot upon the plains during the recent Indian trouble.

OPERA HOUSE.

MONDAY, FEB. 16,

Lester & Allen's Combination.

FRIDAY, FEB. 20,

Sol Smith Russell.

SATURDAY, FEB 21,

ATKINSON & COOK'S MINSTRELS.

Have you a Cough or Cold?

—TRY OUR—

CHERRY LAUREL

COUGH BALSAM

It will cure you.

Prices: 25 and 40 cts.

Have you Rough or Chapped Hands?

Maloon's Amandine

Will make them as soft as a baby's.

Large bottles, 25 cts.

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THE DRUGGISTS

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LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7 00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5 50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS,

Office, 11 Day Street.

TELEPHONE 218-2.

MAY DOCTORS ADVERTISE?

Under the above caption the New York *World* of a recent date has the following:

"The Erie County Medical Society will submit to the State Board of Medical Examiners a question whose decision concerns advertisements of physicians, and may have important results. The objection to advertising entertained by the medical profession seems to be based on an idea of good form and tradition. There certainly does not seem to be any reason why a doctor should not have his card in a paper and specify what he treats if he be a specialist. It is true that profuse advertising on the part of a doctor is felt by the conservative members of the profession to engender a sense of quackery. But this is not necessarily so from the nature of the case, and it hardly seems fair to restrain a doctor from this by legal measures."

In the New Bedford *Standard* there are business cards of 32 physicians of that city, and among these cards it is found that the leading men of the medical fraternity are represented. In some instances the work of the specialist is made to appear prominent, but in the majority of the cards are simply the locations of the residences, the offices, the office hours and the number of the telephone. In the latter case it seems only fair to the community that physicians should not hide their where-abouts and the time devoted to office work from it. There are few families in a city like Fitchburg but take some local paper. A physician is wanted for consultation or to give a prescription; under the present rules, to the uninitiated, there is no way of finding out about this or that physician unless by a call at his office after it has been hunted up. If the local paper contained the information it would save a great deal of bother both to physician and patient, and the work of both would be made much easier. The display of a big advertisement, setting forth the merits of a physician, stamps the advertiser at once, in the minds of most people, as a quack. The simple announcement of where and when he can be found shows that he is a man of business who is willing to assist people in other ways than by filling out prescriptions and making personal examinations.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE

Office Toilet Supply Service?

FURNISHED BY THE

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO.,

229 MAIN STREET.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes.

The following is the Boston Regalia Company's description of the $75 U. S. flag to be awarded to the fortunate lodge: Flag, best silk, United States regulation; size, 6 by 6 feet, 6 inches; flag trimmed with yellow silk knotted fringe and yellow silk 8 inch cord and tassel, or U. S. regulation blue and white cord and tassel; screw-pointed staff, with either eagle, spear or some other device, with the name of the society painted on the stripes of the flag in gold leaf on both sides; black patent leather belt and oil-cloth cover, complete, ready to carry, value of $75.

LENT HAS COME!

PLENTY ∴ OF ∴ FISH

—AT—

The Public Markets.

No. 1. No. 2.

177 MAIN ST. 374

L. A. COUSINS.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,

INSURANCE,

210 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

FIRE INSURANCE.
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

SECRET SOCIETIES

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

Assessment No. 15, Order of the Golden Grail, falls due Thursday next.

Dover instituted a lodge of the Golden Grail on Tuesday evening, with 22 members on the charter list.

At the last meeting of the Local Branch of the Iron Hall one member was initiated and one application was received.

A party of Masons from this city visited Wilder lodge of Leominster Tuesday evening last and witnessed the work of the Master's degree.

The Order of the Golden Lion has now 402 members in this city and at the present rate of increase will have 500 before the expiration of another month.

Elegant calendars have been issued by the Order of Ægis. They are of large size, with a finely lithographed view, and the name of the Order in silver on each.

The February assessment call in the New England Order of Protection shows that all deaths officially reported have been paid, leaving a balance in the treasury of $2,900.

Garnet Lodge, Order of Ægis, has approved Charles A. Waite's claim for $250. One application was received at the last meeting. Notice is given that assessment No. 22 is due the 15th instead of the 20th as before.

The Legion of Honor is to erect a fine building in Boston on Huntington avenue, opposite Caledonia street. It will have a frontage of 54 feet and a depth of 67 feet, and three stories high. The first two stories are to be of rough hewn stone, and above of buff brick, trimmed with terra cotta in ornamental designs, the devices of the Order occupying a conspicuous place.

The Golden Grail continues to glide along serenely and pays off certificates every week. Several were paid off here last Friday and nearly 100 new certificates have been issued since. The imperial officers are kept busily at work instituting new commanderies, and keeping up with the business which the increase in membership all over the State brings upon them. This is an order which has not been boomed by outside influence, but is having a healthy and permanent growth, as is shown by the fact that the older commanderies show a steady increase in numbers.

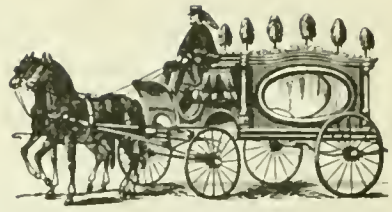
ODD FELLOWS.

Apollo lodge, I. O. O. F., starts out on its career with bright and encouraging prospects. Its officers are well posted and enthusiastic in the work, and there is a desire to push forward to a greater extent than ever before seen here the benevolent and noble sentiments of the institution. The reception to Mt. Roulstone lodge Wednesday evening was a landmark in local Odd Fellowship, and the evident good feeling and harmony existing among the members of the fraternity argues well for the prosperity of the two lodges and the whole Order. The gathering included young men and old men, rich and poor, but all united in the common cause—the good of humanity. Dill of Waltham was caterer and provided an excellent supper. About 310 persons were present. Among the ranks of both lodges are found many of the best people of which the city can boast, and the Order cannot fail to be a power for good with such men at the helm. At no distant day we expect to see the two lodges uniting for the purpose of erecting an Odd Fellows' hall.

The Nashua Odd Fellows are earnestly discussing the time when they will have a temple of their own, which will be at an early date unless all signs fail. A few days since a subscription paper was circulated for a few hours, and the substantial sum of $25,000 was pledged. The *Telegraph* says that $50,000 is practically pledged, that this is only a starter and that five times that amount can be obtained if it is needed.

Parties not Odd Fellows have given 45 acres of land and $4,500 in cash for the orphans' home at Lincoln, Illinois. It is well said that to know the full worth of their generosity they should become members of this great fraternity.

The *Odd Fellows' Companion* has a very readable article in the fraternity and says that since its establishment in America in 1809, 1,635,381 members have been initiated; 1,460,331 have received relief; 183,601 widowed families relieved, and 143,504 members have died. $51,258,391.21 have been paid out for relief. The total receipts during these years was $134,657,909.93. A royal showing with another year's work to add to it of nearly $500,000.



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Do you want to get the most that you can for a dollar?

Do you want that dollar to buy not only the most but the best?

IF SO

Purchase your Clothing, Hats, and furnishings of

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FARNSWORTH BROS.

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A large lot of the

McMILLAN PANTS

The best Pant ever made for the money.

A choice line of

—NECKWEAR—

AT 25 AND 50 CTS.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

3000 PERSONS

SEE THIS.

SUPPOSE IT WAS YOUR AD.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

Boston, Feb. 12, 1891.

Ever read Mark Twain's response to the toast, "The Oldest Inhabitant—The Weather of New England?" If not, get a copy of the small book entitled "Punch, Brothers, Punch," (no reference to the ardent here) and enjoy a good laugh. Am sure you will appreciate the weather chapter. Last week we were kissing the ground, for the earth in its grittiest form rose to the occasion and filled eyes and mouth to suffocation. Notwithstanding the weather fiend's prediction of a cold wave for Sunday, well you know what came and that C. W. gave us her warm shoulder with it. Boston's streets were on Tuesday way out of sight, not in it, but very much under it, and formed the bottom of a good-sized dish of frozen pudding with disreputable looking sauce for goose and gander alike. Ice, slush, mud, snow and water combined to make the lives of those who do not "ride in chaises, but walk—" perfectly miserable. Since then our tempers have oiled up, thanks to a change of temperature and the city authorities. Our new mayor means business, as time will show.

A call at the State House revealed the fact of the much debated horse-docking question not being satisfactorily settled in the minds of the dumb animals' friends, as represented by George T. Angell of the American Humane Society. We earnestly hope that the recently enacted law may be so amended that its original purpose may be better carried out. The famous book, "Black Beauty" has done noble work in showing up the inhumanities practiced on man's faithful friend, particularly the senseless mutilation referred to. It is said that some 80 of our best known society women of the Back Bay have gone so far as to make an organized protest against the docking practice, also that when the present law was passed Gov. Ames at once practically expressed his belief in it by selling his four docked horses. Mr. Angell is rightly named.

Chicago wants everything, but could not have our Dr. Savage, who, much to the gratification of his parishioners and friends, has declined the very flattering offer made recently.

Speaking of ministers reminds me of Dr. Miner's remark after listening to Mr. Moody one noon of late, who had been scoring the liquor dealers unmercifully, "The only trouble with Mr. Moody is that his hell is too far off. Better a little of it for the rumsellers in this life than none of it after death."

The noon-day services held daily at Tremont Temple are attended by thousands. Previous to Mr. Moody's lecture Friday he said there never was a time when he could get fruit so easy as now, and told how out at Brockton the machinery broke down at one of the mills, necessitating the hands to suspend work for an hour or so; result, full house for him.

Rev. Phillips Brooks is to lecture "to men only" at St. Paul's church on Monday noons during Lent. A good idea, as hundreds of business men living out of town, last year gave their noon hour, their only opportunity, to listen to Dr. Brook's wisdom and eloquence, and were obliged to stand owing to the presence of so many men, who, the chances are, could have heard him at other times.

Six weeks last Wednesday since the first inoculation of the Dr. Koch (pronounced coke) lymph and the patients are, nine of them, at least, limping along toward recovery. Those in authority at the hospital have been very reticent, wisely so, fearing to mislead and disappoint the anxious ones, but they have good reason to feel rejoiced at the result so far. Extreme caution and small doses have been administered. The patients themselves feel satisfied with the treatment and effect. Several have gone to their homes, not wholly cured, yet so much improved as to warrant the brightest hopes.

The Boston *Post* moving to Washington street adds another bulletin board to Newspaper Row. With the exception of Sunday *Times* and *Traveller* we believe every paper of importance is located there. No excuse now for a passer-by to be in ignorance of the latest news, and both sides of it too.

Narrowness of our streets suggests a story of their crookedness as well, in a dialogue overheard on School street between two drummers. He, (from Phil.)—"Your streets make me tired, why in this generation don't you straiten them?" He, (from Boston)—"See here, my weary friend, if Boston was as dead as Philadelphia, our streets would be laid out straight."

We hope the true Civil Service principles will be carried out in the case of our soldier Postmaster Gen. Corse, a man eminently fitted to go on with the good work of the post.

The 24th annual encampment of the Mass. G. A. R. convened here Wednesday. The 23,592 comrades were represented by 719 delegates. Commander-in-chief Wheelock G. Veazey and his handsome suite were present. The officers for the ensuing year are as follows: President, Mrs. Augusta A. Wales, Dorchester; senior vice-president, Mrs. Delilah Davis, Palmer; junior vice-president, Mrs. Hattie A. Ralph, Somerville; treasurer, Mrs. Harriette L. Reed, Dorchester; chaplain, Mrs. Sarah E. Walkley; executive board, Mrs. Mary M. Perry, Springfield; Mrs. Elizabeth V. Long, Hyde Park; Mrs. Clare H. Burleigh, Athol; Mrs. Clara C. Lovering, Medford; Mrs. Emilie L. W. Waterman, Boston.

In conjunction, although by separately conducted sessions was that noble band of patriotic workers, the Woman's Relief Corp holding their 13th annual convention. It is indeed a privilege to be enrolled as a member of that Grand Army of women, who form such a loving and helpful auxiliary to the G. A. R. Their record is indeed a noble one. It represents 137 corps and 10,600 members to date right here in the old Bay State, the mother of the W. R. C. We will send a few sparks from the campfire, next week.

The Kendals opened a brilliant engagement at the Hollis street theatre last Monday. Performances given by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal form red letters in the history of the stage. The "Solicitors'" 50th argument was made on Tuesday last at the Boston Museum. Marshall P. Wilder drifts about town once in a while with his merry smile and bright sallies. Here is his latest, "When," shouts he in voice like the middle man of a minstrel show, "is an actor not an actor? You give it up? Nine times out of ten."

MARION HOWARD.

HERBERT N. RUGG,

CONFECTIONER,

181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

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A VOTE

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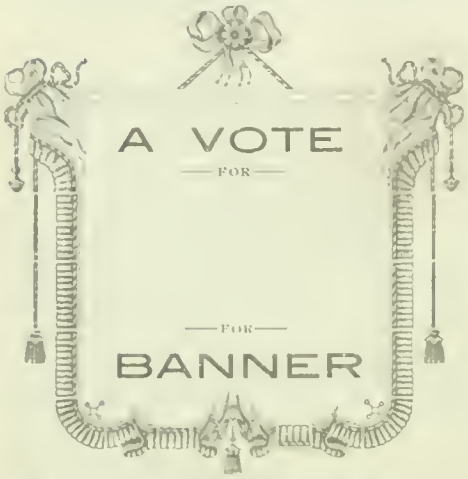

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

Lester & Allen's combination at the opera house.

Dr. J. A. Greene lectures at city hall at 8 p. m.

TUESDAY.

City government meets, 7.30 p. m.

Dr. J. A. Greene lectures at city hall.

WEDNESDAY.

Spiritualists' dance at G. A. R. hall.

Dr. J. A. Greene lectures at city hall.

THURSDAY.

Y. M. C. A. lecture at city hall.

FRIDAY.

"A Poor Relation" at the opera house.

SATURDAY.

Atkinson & Cook's minstrels at the opera house.

LORIN HOSLEY,

BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.

Blank Books Made to Order.

Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.

360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

OLIVES
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POPPING CORN,
GRANULAR
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TOBACCO
MACKERL
OIL
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HERRING
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NO. 7 CIGARS

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Do your trading with the following representative firms. Every 25-cent purchase entitles you to one card. Be sure and ask for it when the purchase is made. At the expiration of three months (April 25, 1891,) the person holding the greatest number of cards will receive the PARLOR SUIT FREE OF CHARGE. Remember the cards are obtained only at the following stores.

Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St.
A. L. Williams & Co., Grocers, 15[illegible] & 155 Main St.
H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St.
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St.
F. F. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block.
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 374 Main St.
F. J. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St.
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St.
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St.
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. A. Baxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 8.

FITCHBURG, MASS., FEBRUARY 21, 1891.

$2.00 PER YEAR.
15 CENTS A COPY.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

THE POPULAR

HOUSE FURNISHERS

Offer till March 1st some extra inducements to purchasers of Furniture and Carpets—a good many odd pieces, sample sets, misfit carpets, etc., which will be closed out very low to make room for new spring goods now arriving.

See our Grand Oil Heater for rooms that need to be heated only part of the time.

See our Quaker Range if you want one that will stand every test. Hundreds of names in our list of customers who use them.

Parlor Stoves at your own price.

A full assortment of

Parlor Suits,
Chamber Sets,
Ranges,
Crockery,
Cutlery,
Lamps,
Straw Matting,
Mirrors,
Carpets,
Rugs,
Clocks, &c.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

MISS MARY HOWE.

Miss Mary Howe, who will visit this city Wednesday next, is a native of Brattleboro, Vt., and is in her twenty-second year. Her singing attracted attention when she was only nine years old, and at the age of 16 years she studied under the direction of Charles R. Adams of Boston. In 1886 she went to Europe and became a pupil of the Dresden Opera School, and as soon as she had graduated was beset by managers from various parts of Europe, who desired her services. She appeared at Kroll's Garden at Berlin in "The Barber of Seville," "Lucia" and "La Somnambula," with immense success. In the summer of 1888 she went to Paris and placed herself under charge of Mme. Marchesi, who has a reputation as a teacher second to none in Europe. She returned in 1890 and is fast earning a national reputation as a singer, and is enthusiastically received everywhere.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

The "Pilgrim" and the "Providence" are in commission this season for the Winter passenger business of the Fall River Line. All seasons are alike, however, to these great triumphs of naval architecture and construction; and for them Winter has no discomforts.

The latest official statistics from India are not re-assuring for missionaries. In one year no less than 22,970 people were killed by snakes and wild beasts. Notwithstanding the fact that most vigorous efforts have been made to exterminate snakes, 20,571 persons have died from being bitten by these reptiles, and the mortality from this cause seems to increase rather than diminish.

The Woman's Relief Corps of this state numbers 137 corps and a membership of 10,000; the money raised and distributed among the sick veterans or handed over to the G. A. R. posts amounted to $17,-134.34. A vast amount of relief from suffering and want was thus secured.

Lucy Tincker, colored, of Trigg county, Kentucky, aged 105 years, has cut a full set of new teeth, the old ones having decayed and disappeared about 40 years ago. She had also been nearly blind for many years, but recently her sight began to improve and she can now see as well as when a young woman. She is the mother of 15 children and has ninety-odd grandchildren now living. Next from Kentucky, please.

A man at Brockton has evolved a new and not particularly popular method of killing cats. He sews them up in a bag and puts them on the rail to be smashed by car wheels. The railroad men object to being parties to such a performance. Poor pussy may be a nuisance, but the railroad men will scalp that fellow if they catch him.

More rumors around town, some true, some untrue. One is that F. A. Currier on retiring from the post-office will become interested in and manager of the new theatre recently alluded to by this and other papers. Such is not the case, however. In the first place the plans for this new place of amusement are not in any shape to go ahead with, but Mr. Currier could, if disposed to accept the management, have the matter in working shape in a very few weeks as men able to sustain such an enterprise would be glad to have him undertake the work. In the first place Mr. Currier will engage in the business his father has carried on. The firm has not yet decided upon new quarters. Another report is that Adj. C. K. Darling, *Sentinel* reporter, will enter the post-office as assistant postmaster. Dame Rumor does not appear to have kindly furnished a successor to Mr. Darling. Two or three influential gentlemen have kindly mentioned Mr. Darling's name and *if* Mr. Wallace goes out of the office for an assistant postmaster Mr. Darling will probably receive first considerations as he is "within the inner temple of Massachusetts Republicanism." Will Mr. Wallace go outside for an assistant, however? Well—Mr. Wallace has undoubtedly looked the ground over by this time and knows something of his own mind even if he does not say anything. Another rumor is that within the next few days two interesting business ventures will be made known, one being in the banking line and one in the mutual insurance line. There are good grounds for believing the last statements to be true and Dame Rumor will not have to resurrect old Bill Jones to prove her veracity.

MISS ANNA C. BURT,
SOLOIST.
TEACHER OF VOCAL MUSIC.
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5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

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AUCTION.

The Largest and Most Important Auction Sale of

BANANAS

Of The SEASON.

TO-NIGHT.

—AT—

MACY'S.

NOW IS THE TIME

TO BUY FURS.

We have received from a manufacturer in New York, a large consignment of LADIES' FURS consisting of CAPES, COLLARS and MUFFS, WITH ORDERS TO SELL.

These goods are all new and fresh, and many of them will be sold for half the price the same kind were before the Holidays. Every article is warranted as represented, and can be returned if not perfectly satisfactory.

Men's Fur Collars and Cuffs ready made or made to order, at very low prices.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

GRAND CONCERT

BY

MISS MARY HOWE

The Young American Soprano,

—Assisted by the Celebrated Tenor,—

Mr. W. H. LAVIN, of N. Y.

AND THE

BEETHOVEN CLUB,

OF BOSTON

MR. CHAS. N ALLEN, Violin.
MR ALBERT VAN RAALTE, Violin.
MR. G. B. VAN SANTVOORD, Flute
MR EDWIN A SABIN, Viola.
MISS GEORGIA PRAY, 'Cello
MR AGUSTUS ELLIS, Bass

Mr. Lucien Howe, Accompanist.

Tickets, - - 75c. and $1.00

Tickets go on sale Saturday, Feb. 21st, at 9 o'clock a. m., at stores of Macurda & Sawyer and J. E. Thompson.

Sale of Tickets limited to 10 to a person

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

At the time of going to press the Templar reception is under way. An account as it appeared to a TOWN TALKER will appear in our next issue.

The pictures of Mary Howe on exhibition in the windows of some of our principal stores have attracted much attention from both gentlemen and ladies. Both seem to be impressed with her beautiful face and figure and many will go more to see the lovely lady than to hear her beautiful singing.

Those who still love the old plantation songs and funny sayings and antics of the burnt cork artists will be able to enjoy two hours fun at the opera house tonight. Unless exchanges misrepresent the troupe, and we do not think they do, the company will present a very attractive bill of fare.

A feast of wit and common sense was given in the fifth entertainment of the Y. M. C. A. course, Thursday evening. Ex-Governor Will Cumback, of Indiana, under the guise of the subject, "The Common Man," delivered a lecture setting forth the merits of man in general, and the model husband in particular. The lecturer went back to the Garden of Eden to prove his assertion that woman has been too much adored, and man too much ignored, in romance and poetry. The address bristled with quaint and original humor, cleverly turned to emphasize the beauties of the true home life.

In order to dispose of the sewing machine offered by Messrs. T. S. Maloon and several other reputable firms, tickets to the number of nearly 70,000 were given out, making the purchases amount to nearly $17,500. The winner, Mrs. Manly Coburn, Pleasant street, had over 39,000 tickets, which were given her by numerous friends, principally ladies of the Relief Corps. The next nearest was a party of friends who had over 24,000 tickets. Several others who ranged from one to 1,000 tickets were, of course, completely out of the race. Such a mass of cards proved to the committee that the Ladies' Relief Corps can be an immense power for good when determined to be. All power to you, ladies.

Last week, owing to a little accident the advertisement of the Boston Regalia Company, part of the F. R. R. Co's. ad. and one or two others were damaged and the two first named were past being fixed up in time for the paper. They appear this week, however. Our intention was to have a sample flag or banner on exhibition in one of our largest stores, but it is difficult to select one that will do justice to the banner the company intends to get out for the winning organization. Any persons who visit Boston and who desire to see what the company can do in this line of goods, either religious, secular or secret work, should call at their store, 10 Temple place. The manager will be pleased to show the finest regalia, paraphernalia etc., to be seen in that city. Visitors can get a better idea of what the winning lodge etc., can select, from a visit to the store, than could be gained by the exhibition of three or four flags.

Saturday evening, O. W. Booth, 104 Green street, received a hasty call home and on arriving there found that the premises were in possession of his G. A. R. comrades, the ladies of Relief Corps, Knights of Honor and other friends, who had gathered to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his marriage. After music of a merry nature J. O. A. Nutting in behalf of the company presented Mr. and Mrs. Booth with a bed lounge, decorated dinner and tea set, a dozen napkins, silver cake basket, butter knife, goblets to quench their thirst, and a book from Rev. G. S. Shaw of Ashby. After refreshments were served and a pleasant time enjoyed, the guard was withdrawn and the party left wishing them other 25 years of married life and prosperity.

Minnestema Council, D. of P., held a very pleasant and successful entertainment Wednesday evening. The exercises consisted of vocal and instrumental music and a short play, entitled "No cure, no pay." This was followed by sports, such as bean bag throwing and pistol shooting for prizes. The prizes were won by C. H. Proctor, John W. Ogden and W. E. Walker. Ice cream and cake were served.

One of the gentlemen who visited the house of Superintendent of Streets J. A. Battles was so well pleased with the supper that he jokingly tried to induce Mr. Battles to throw up his present position and commence running a night lunch cart. The remark created a little merriment, but judging by the complimentary remarks in our esteemed contemporaries and a little experience of our own, we are inclined to think Mrs. Battles has made her mark as an expert cook.

The chamber set offered by several merchants to the person securing most tickets fell to Mrs. Thomas Hart who had 12,240 tickets. The next nearest was J. Morris, 1 Academy street, who had 7,911. The total number of tickets presented was 30,969. Quite a number of others had a large number of tickets.

A new Odd Fellows hall in this city is not out of the question even during the present year. We understand that the subject is under consideration among the various bodies of the order and that active steps will be taken to bring the matter to a successful issue. In many cities scarcely larger than this the fraternity owns a building designed specially for the use of the order. The present quarters used by the brotherhood are well fitted up and most conveniently located, but the entertainments, dances etc. in the hall beneath often mar the beauty of the proceedings above. If steps are taken to raise a fund for building purposes there is little doubt about the required sum being raised without going out of the fraternity.

E. J. Macy, Dr. F. A. Damon and Alphonso Kelly returned from their Jamaica trip Thursday morning, after being away 20 days. The passage to the island was exceedingly rough and one of the party, neither the auctioneer nor the grocer, was in that condition which the burnt-cork nigger described as "speechless misery;" that is, he looked at his friends as though he had something on his mind he would like to throw off. The journey home was a pleasant winter voyage. E. J. Macy has turned their store into a regular tropical exhibition. He has brought back some excellent views of the island, native wines, rum, tobacco and the following varieties of fruit: cocoanut and chocolate fruit, pine apples in bloom, banana blossoms, yams, sugar cane, annatto dye, limes, oranges, sour sop, ackie and bread fruit. The whole collection will be on view all day today.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,

INSURANCE,

210 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

FIRE INSURANCE.
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

Gossip and Hit-Chat.

While Kellar, the genial magician, and his talented and charming wife were exhibiting recently in Shenandoah, Pa., in their new act of thought transference, in which Mrs. Kellar, while blindfolded, cubes any number thought of by a committee, the wily magician lost $100. It appears that Mr. Kellar offered this amount to any one who would discover an error in any number that Mrs. Kellar should call out. On this occasion a Mr. Doyle thought of a number and took the chalk to write the answer on the blackboard. Mrs. Kellar calling out 148,877 as the cube of 53, Mr. Doyle put down the number 48,877, omitting the first figure 1. Mr. Kellar failed to notice the omission until several other examples had been given, at which time a young man in the audience called out that the cube of 53 was wrong. One glance at the board convinced Mr. Kellar of the error, and not wishing to argue the point as to whether Mrs. Kellar failed to call the first figure or the gentleman who wrote the answer had failed to put it down, he promptly called the young man on the stage and handed him a crisp $100 bill. The recipient's name is Reice, and he is a weigher at one of the large collieries. When last seen he was hilariously enjoying Mr. Kellar's hundred.—[Dramatic News.

The following from the Holyoke *Transcript* is copied as a warning to sentimental young men who may be in the same box as the one referred to in the item: "A young book-keeper of this city, a year ago last Christmas, made his South Hadley Falls girl a present of a lady's gold watch. A short time after they had a falling out and the young man was "left". The young lady did not say anything about the watch when he left but still wears it. It is a very pretty time-keeper and she likes to show it. What makes the young man feel mad is that he is still paying 50 cents a week, for he bought it on the installment plan. It cost him $65."

Although this is supposed to be the season of fasting, yet our dealers do not complain of any very perceptible falling off in their special lines.

An ingenious device, just invented consists of a cigar holder which goes inside of the hat and six cigars or so may be carried therein.

Japan follows the American fashion. Tokio, the capital and largest city of the empire, is growing rapidly in population, because everybody wants to live where they can "see something," and the country towns are losing population as fast as Tokio gains. In these two countries —America and Japan—situated 10,000 miles apart on different sides of the globe we find human nature and human folly just about the same. The love of gossip and novelty rule everywhere and the difference between a highly civilized and a so-called barbarous nation is almost too small for computation save in pretension.

The following is self explanatory and speaks better for us than we could speak for ourselves: "Fitchburg, Feb. 17. Editor Town Talk, Dear Sir—By mistake of mine you printed in last issue an "ad" which I intended to have changed. Consequently we had many calls for goods not in stock. This proves that it pays to advertise and that Town Talk is the place to do it. I send you a new "ad" and promise your readers to have the goods. Yours truly, E. M. Read."

A hotel is to be built on the top of Pike's Peak—14,200 feet high above the sea level.

DO YOU KNOW

THAT Randel's Central Market is the place to buy your provisions?
THAT his goods are just what he represents them to be?
THAT he carries the largest and best selected stock of Provisions, Poultry, Game and Fruit to be found in the city?
THAT he can and will make better prices for Hotels and Boarding Houses, than any other dealer?
THAT if goods are not as represented they can be returned and money will be refunded?
THAT his prices are as low as the lowest, quality considered?
THAT the "Maple Grove" Sausages are the best ever sold in Fitchburg?

CENTRAL MARKET,
304 Main Street.
GEO. H. RANDEL.

M. W. CUMMINGS,
Undertaker & Embalmer.
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
COFFINS, CASKETS, AND FUNERAL FURNISHINGS.
Rooms at 211 Main Street.
Residence, 76 Laurel St.
Chairs to let for Funerals and other occasions.
TELEPHONE.
211 Main St., - - - FITCHBURG, MASS

KIMBALL & CO.

February Bargains.

Tte Greatest and Grandest of the season,

NOW READY.

Every piece of

WINTER MERCHANDISE

Must be sold this month.

Buy Now

And lay away for another Winter.

IT WILL PAY YOU

TO DO SO.

More Particulars Later.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

Mrs. Jefferson Davis has covered 1300 pages in writing the memoir of her late husband. There are hundreds of people up North here who could write his life on one page and then have space to spare.

In one county in Georgia it is said that there is neither a lawyer, a doctor nor a dentist. The result is that there is very little litigation, the health of the people is good and they don't have much trouble with their teeth.

This paper has made a few comical mistakes as all papers do, but nothing we have yet made has equalled that of a paper in commenting upon the death of an estimable lady, remarking that she had gone to her eternal *roast*.

The average Wellesley college girl weighs 119½ pounds. Which is just a comfortable armful.—[Lowell Times. And we would like to wager that the average Wellesley college girl is well aware of the fact and governs herself accordingly.

Statistics show that last year this country drank nearly two kegs of beer for every man, woman and child. Probably two-thirds of the inhabitants of the United States drank no beer whatever, so the other third must have "rushed the growler" pretty steadily.

In different parts of the state petitions are being circulated asking the legislature to so change the laws relating to debtors and creditors that it will be possible to collect debts upon reasonable terms. The papers are being signed by business men generally in the places where circulated.

A hint for teachers. Some months ago a dinner was given in London at which were representatives of great nations. At the close, it was proposed that the national hymn of each country be sung by persons present and all the hymns were sung except our own. None present could sing the four stanzas of "America."

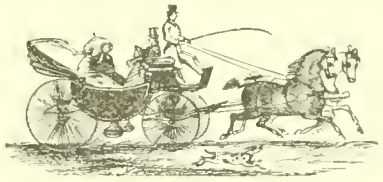
A Rochester paper says the secret of Chauncey M. Depew's abandonment of the smoking habit has been discovered. Mrs. Depew presented him with a box of cigars and made him promise not to give them away. That settled it. This cure is recommended to all wives who wish to kill their husbands' smoking habits.

New York pays her aldermen $2,000 a year salary. Buffalo pays hers $1,000 a year salary. Brooklyn pays hers nothing. We have poor aldermen, but no aldermen who are poor.—[Brooklyn Eagle. Fitchburg, too, pays her aldermen nothing, but we have never yet had a great deal of trouble in scaring up a sufficient number of candidates.

The recent Sioux campaign will cost, it is said, $2,000,000. What does the noble red man cost us and what shall we do with him is getting interesting. Horace Greeley when asked once what was best to do with the American Indians, replied that it would be the cheapest in the end for the government to have them all boarded at the Fifth Avenue hotel. Mr. Greeley was not far from right, either.

A young Mexican never pays for the tickets when he takes a young woman to the theatre. The lady's father attends to that and considers himself insulted if the young man proposes to pay. We know lots of impecunious young men around Fitchburg who would not kick at that arrangement. They would think it was just too lovely for anything if their girls' fathers would only establish the custom. They would not give the old men many chances to feel insulted, would they, girls?

LIVERY, BOARDING
—AND—
SALE STABLE.



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ACADEMY ST., - REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.
First-class Horses and Carriages for hire. Orders promptly attended to. Accommodation for fifty horses. Best care and feed at all times.

GUY WOODS,
REAR NATIONAL HOUSE.

DO YOU USE A
RUBBER STAMP?
IF NOT, WHY NOT?

Do you know how much valuable time you can save by the use of a Rubber Stamp?
We can furnish anything in the stamp line that is made and meet any prices of first-class manufacturers.
We warrant all our work
SECRET SOCIETY GOODS,
RIBBON BADGES for all occasions.
STENCILS AND STEEL DIES.
FITCHBURG RUBBER STAMP WORKS,
190 1-2 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Dining Rooms, Etc.

HAYWARD'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL.
337 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.
Meals served on the European Plan when desired. First-Class Restaurant
JOHN H. PRESCOTT, Prop'r.

HOTEL WESTMORELAND.
25 TO 29 DAY STREET.
Ladies' and Gents' Dining Rooms. Board by the day or week. Good rooms, polite attention and good service. Everything first-class.
F. W. ALDRICH, Prop'r.

HOWARTH'S RESTAURANT.
FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
40 DAY STREET.
First-class service and reasonable rates. Board by the day or week.
JOHN HOWARTH, Propr.

DRURY'S DINING ROOMS.
144 MAIN STREET.
BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.
For Ladies and Gentlemen.
First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.
G. E. HAYWARD, Propr.

BROWNELL & MASON,
PLUMBING
AND HEATING,
158 MAIN ST.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMPING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

ECONOMY IN FUEL
BY THE USE OF THE
GAS CO'S PREPARED
COKE!

The Gas Company now has
PREPARED COKE ON HAND.
A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.

A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

Chamberlain,
Huntress & Co.

WE HAVE MADE

WAY-DOWN

PRICES

ON ALL OUR

WINTER HOSIERY,

FOR

Ladies, Gents., Misses, Children and Infants.

All can be supplied for a little money.

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

J. H. MACK & CO.,

Plumbers and Steam Fitters.

FINE SANITARY PLUMBING

A SPECIALTY.

LABOR PERFORMED BY SKILLED WORKMEN.

171 MAIN ST.

Come in and See

MY NEW LINE OF

WALL PAPERS,

MOULDINGS,

Window Shades, &c.

Window Shades made and hung to order.

GEO. Z. PAGE

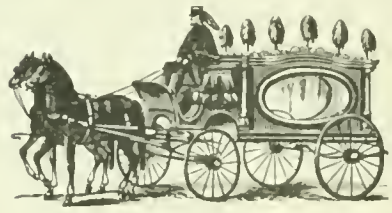
359 MAIN STREET.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.



H. A. LeSure. F. D. LeSure.

LeSURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 Day St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

Dinner Sets.

If you are thinking of purchasing a Dinner Set, call and examine the

Kenwood, Dove,
Pencil Hop, Clifton,
Arabic, Venice,
Floral, Tennyson,
Bedford, Foley,
Etc., Etc.

We will sell you Dinner Sets cheaper than you can buy them in Boston.

COLEMAN & DRURY,

138 MAIN STREET.

Do Low Prices Mean Anything?

YOU BET!

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS

JUST GET.

Don't get left on the Bargains. We must close them out to make room for our Spring Goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

SQUARE DEALING, ONE PRICE

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

THE GENUINE

CLOSING OUT SALE

—AT—

The Boston Shoe Store!

IS STILL GOING ON.

ALL GOODS SOLD REGARDLESS OF COST.

BARGAINS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT.

Ladies' French Kid Boots (genuine) . .	$4.50,	now $3.00
Ladies' Button Boots (small sizes),	2.00 and 2.25,	" .60
Ladies' Dongola Boots . Regular Price,	2.50,	" 2.00
Ladies' Kid Button Boots	3.50,	" 2.50
Ladies' Kid Button Boots	3.00,	" 2.50
Ladies' Kid Button Boots	3.50,	" 2.75

Ladies' Shopworn Goods at Your Own Price.

Men's "Our Own" Fine Calf Button and Congress	4.00,	" 3.00
Men's Velvet and Goat Slippers . .	1.35 & 1.50,	" 1.00
Men's Fine Calf Box Toe Congress . . .	4.00,	" 2.90
Men's Fine Calf Plain Toe Lace	3.75,	" 2.85
Men's Kangaroo Cork Sole Lace and Congress,	3.25,	" 2.50
Men's Kangaroo Goodyear Welt Low and Congress	3.50,	" 3.03

All our fine goods for Ladies and Gents such as the famous makes of P. C. Burt & Co., Burt & Mears, Burt & Packard (Korrect Shape, etc., etc. *First quality Rubber Goods at Wholesale Prices.*

BOSTON SHOE STORE.

182 Main Street, - - Fitchburg, Mass.

Jottings By the Way.

Herbert G. Chase is arranging to present the play of "Baby" at the opera house about the latter part of next month or early in the month following. Among the leading actors will be Will L. Walker and Ned Brown. Some novelties in the music line may also be looked for on this occasion. The play is a cross between The Senator and The Nominee, and is chuck full of roaring fun. Those who recently saw Nat Goodwin in The Nominee will appreciate The Baby. The intention is to put the play on the stage in first class style, and the best amateurs in the city will compose the cast.

E. H. Burbank, shoe dealer, under the Fitchburg Hotel, will shortly move to Brooklyn, N. Y., and W. F. Kimball, now in Central block, next to city hall, will move in Mr. Burbank's store.

Mrs. J. C. Howard's ball at Winchendon Friday evening last was the great social event of the season, and eclipsed anything given there this season. Her concert was praised by all, and she scored a great success. Litch & Allen's orchestra also came in for much praise for the excellent music given and the willingness to respond to encores.

Does advertising pay? Certainly if you go about it the right way. People are all the time looking for the best and the cheapest goods on the market. If you advertise something they want you will get your share of their trade. If you do not keep your name before the public your store will gain a sleepy reputation. There is no better form of advertising than newspaper advertising. There is no better medium that Town Talk from its popularity and convenient size.

E. M. Read advertised a special line of candy in Town Talk Saturday last and was surprised how soon it was cleared out. All day Saturday and Monday there were calls for it and it was not advertised in any other paper. He advertises another kind this week and has laid in a big supply. He cannot be caught napping twice.

F. H. Allen, who formerly run the candy store next door to M. W. Cummings and now run by H. E. Goodere, tailor, is foreman in a large candy manufactory in London, Eng. In a recent letter to his father at Bath, Me., he states that he has not seen the sunshine for 38 days on account of dense fogs.

The All Fools Carnival of the Universalist church will take place in city hall Wednesday, April 1, and will be one of the most notable gatherings ever assembled there. Many of our readers will remember the carnival of last year. The committees in charge are arranging for a list of novelties for the coming party that will outdo all previous attempts. We are, therefore, expecting to see something unusually fine at the fools' annual convention.

Our assessors want more pay it is said. A comparison with other cities seem to indicate that we pay equal to some other, less than some other and again more than other cities.

Mrs. Adelaide Florence Chase, public reader, presents herself for public notice. Her specialties are recitation for churches, lodges, parlor entertainments, receptions etc. and her selections embrace a wide range. He repertoire also includes scenes from famous plays, such as "Fanchon, the Cricket," "The Spanish Student" by Longfellow, "King Henry V.," Virginius," and many others. She may be found at 46 Mt. Globe street.

The firm of Chipman & Philbrook has been dissolved, Mr. Chipman having sold out his interest in the firm. The business will be carried on as usual by the remaining partner, and for the present the name of the firm will remain the same. Mr. Philbrook, while not generally known to our citizens, is a good business man and will continue to make the store one of the most popular in town. Mr. Chipman has under consideration an offer to take charge of a large branch store for a Boston firm, but is not yet decided what course he will adopt. He will remain in this city for the present.

B. A. Perkins, son of the late J. L. Perkins, will shortly open the store now occupied by W. F. Kimball, near city hall, with a large and fine selection of boots and shoes.

Now appears to be a good time to purchase boots, shoes, rubbers, etc., as several stores are clearing out winter stocks. The Boston shoe store (see adv. in another column) continues its clearing out sale, the Enterprise shoe store is also closing out and D. H. Pierce offers a lot of winter goods, etc., at greatly reduced prices. Read over the advertisements and you will find several changes, all of which mean a saving of money to buyers. Store-keepers do not lay out money in advertising unless they have something more than words to back up their advertisements.

On Monday afternoon a special train will run to Pepperell and members of the Board of Trade and other citizens will visit that place to take part in the dedication of Leighton Bros.' new shoe shop. A list of names may be found today and on Monday morning at the Safety Fund bank and at the Putnam Machine Co.'s office. Those who intend to go must sign the list to cover the guarantee for a special train. The round trip fare is 75 cents.

A. E. ROGERS,

366 Main Street,

Watches,
Diamonds,
Jewelry.

SOLID SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE

SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES.

366 Main St., Corner Central St.

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired

FOR LUMBER

Call at yard of

C. A. PRIEST LUMBER COMPANY,

45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.

If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

COAL LACKAWANNA. CHESTNUT.

$7 PER TON.

HARD. SOFT. WOOD

8 Baskets Best Hard Wood,	$1.00
10 " Mixed " "	1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord,	5.50
Soft Wood, "	3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord,	4.50
Splints, per bunch,	.05

100 cords dry wood in our sheds ready for delivery. All orders by mail or otherwise promptly delivered.

F. H. ARNOLD,

16 HARWOOD PLACE.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That it is about time to resurrect last year's maple syrup and place it on exhibition with the usual card announcing new syrup.

That we may now look for the announcement every day in the morning and evening papers that "spring-time and robins have come."

That a certain young lady and a certain musician, residents of ward five would be interested in perusing a letter sent here. We cannot allow them to Carrie it away, however.

That evidently a few jokes were played on Valentines day if we may judge by a few specimens seen. One of our citizens received one calculated to rouse his ire, but instead he laughingly placed it on exhibition.

That with the comical error over the cost of our new armory and the equally funny error over the confirmation of our new postmaster our people are having a little fun. The two institutions are so close together that it is all the more amusing.

That a witty resident of ward five remarks that he has used so many ashes on his sidewalks this winter that he has none left for Lent, and the McKinley bill has put up sackcloth so high that it is out of reach. The facilities for fasting are still complete, however.

That it would be a good idea to purchase a lot of wood and make all the tramps who put up at the police station saw and split a certain quantity for their lodging. Let each man have his own time to do it in, but insist upon a certain quantity for the accommodations afforded.

That the *Sentinel* hit the brilliant correspondent for the Sunday *Herald* a hard hit this week. But is the game worth the shot? The correspondent is something like the society man in New York who was attending a swell affair in all the glory of full dress, immaculate shirt front and patent leather shoes. He was hanging on to a society dame who finally shook him for a brief spell when a lady near remarked to the society dame, "what brilliant shoes your escort wears." "Yes," replied the dame, "unfortunately he shines at the wrong end."

That there have been crowded houses in police court this week. The powers that be seem determined to make the way of the trangressor as hard as possible.

That the number of cases before the court for being drunk is very small. "Has it ever occurred to you?"

That the meetings of the aldermen of late have been regular love feasts. The business has been quickly disposed of and the members of the board have backed up the mayor solidly. After business the aldermen resolve themselves into a pleasant, chatty gathering. That's good.

C. H. DOTEN,
224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

We are closing-out our Winter Millinery at just about *half price.*

It is a good time to buy as we have a large lot of Hats made within a month—*all fresh goods.* We have *three* lines of Corsets, formerly $1.00 per pair, now only 50 cents. 50 dozen Children's Black Cotton Hose at 5 cents per pair, former price 10, 12½ and 15 cents. 100 dozen Ladies' Aprons from 12½ cents to $1.25 each. A large line of Ladies', Misses' and Children's Underwear at very low prices.

We guarantee our prices *as low* as any store in town, although we *do not* intend to *move away, nor go out of business.*

C. H. DOTEN.

CLOSING-OUT SALE!

Leather and Rubber Goods
AT COST.

Ladies' Rubbers, Boston,		.35
Woonsocket Boots, Men's,		2.40
Boston Peb. Leg,	"	2.50
Hip Boots, Boston	"	3.30

ALL GOODS AT COST.
The Empire Shoe Store,
367 MAIN STREET.

3000 PERSONS
SEE THIS.
SUPPOSE IT WAS YOUR AD.

Girard & Irish
Are daily receiving novelties in
DRESS GOODS
Suitable for early spring wear.
EXAMINATION SOLICITED.

GIRARD & IRISH,
ONE PRICE
Dry Goods, Cloaks & Millinery,
212 Main St., Fitchburg.

FARNSWORTH BROS.
JUST RECEIVED!
A large lot of the
McMILLAN PANTS
The best Pant ever made for the money.
A choice line of
—⇥NECKWEAR⇤—
AT 25 AND 50 CTS.
146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.
227 Main St., Fitchburg.
We invite the public to call and inspect our
New Glassware.
We have a new kind—Very Handsome.
Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.
LARGE LINE OF
CROCKERY & PLATED WARE.
F. A. BLANCHARD, Proprietor.

If I were an editor I would write a long article on landlords. I would go for the parsimonious landlords red hot; I would hammer the cross-grained landlords till they were black and blue, I would give due praise to the liberal landlords and I would drub the careless landlords, but the ones I would handle most unmercifully would be the landlords who get up on stilts to maintain their cold reserve when a tenant applies for a house and states that he has two or three young children. I never could see why a landlord should be so terribly scared about a few children, I am one of those who believe that every well regulated family ought to have to have two or three, or other wise adopt one or two to help those who have a few too many. I know a landlord who patched up a rickety old place worth a few hundred dollars, laid out a few hundred more and finally turned it into a six roomed cottage for which he wanted $13 per month. A hard working, respectable man applied for it and was very affably received. He liked the place and was just about to close a bargain when the wretch asked, "Have you any children?" "Yes, I have three." If the man had said he had small-pox in the house the landlord could hardly have been more serious He seemed to retire within himself and to shut the door after he got in. If he had run against an iceberg he could not have been cooler. The man with the family retorted: "If you only say so, I will take the kids down to the back bay and drop them into the river," and went off as cool as the landlord, whose nose now curled up at an angle of 45 degrees. Soon after another man went after the house, and having no children got the house. The second party had boarders, however, and for my part, I can't see the difference between renting a house to a man with one or two children and renting it to a man who has three or four boarders. One is as likely to wear out a place as the other. If not, let some one go to work and build some houses where those who have a few children can go and hope to get one without sending a thrill of horror through the owner when the pickaninnies are mentioned.

Another crusade. This time it is the poor little chocolate drop that is to be driven out because it is said to be flavored with brandy. It is soberly claimed that young people have been intoxicated by these innocent looking little bits of the confectioner's art, and the Law and Order League has sent a petition to the legislature calling for the enactment of a law prohibiting the manufacture and sale of all kinds of confectionery containing alcohol or intoxicating liquors, and it has been referred to the committee on public health. The public mind will hardly believe, however, that the consumption of these candies, flavored with weakened brandy, is so great that people are in peril of intoxication from them. The individual consumption is small and it is doubtful even if such a sober bird as a raven could imbibe enough therefrom to get even a semblance of a jag on. If the Law and Order League would ask the legislature to make it criminal to manufacture such a heap of cheap, unwholesome and oftentimes poisonous candy, it would do a real service to the public.

There seems to be quite an exodus this year, or perhaps it may be called an old fashioned spring moving. Mr. Blodgett has gone, Mr. Staples is going and Mr. Burbank, shoe dealer, under the Fitchburg Hotel, is soon to follow. Then there are a number of other changes around. W. F. Lovering starts in business in Dickinson's new block. Jeweller Webber and F. C. Currier are moving out of their store to make room for Girard & Irish's extension. Mr. Donahue goes back to his place at the Union Pacific Tea store, and Mr. Webber will move into his store. W. F. Kimball, shoe dealer, will move into the store about to be vacated by Mr. Burbank, and C. B. Walker leaves town, to be succeeded in business by his present head clerk, Mr. Newton. There are still some other changes rumored that makes things look a little unsettled. What is the cause? Perhaps there are several, but it seems reasonable to suppose that if these men were doing well they would not move away. The days when men can make a comfortable fortune in a few years' time are gone by, and now a business man in a small city is content, as a rule, if he can pay his way and make a fair percentage on what he has invested in his business. For some time past this has not been done here (and many other places), and business men are inclined to lay the cause to the endowment society craze. It is hurting business, all admit, but there must also be some local causes. Is the rent scare one? There are quite a number of men who very freely state to your raven that any tendency to increase rents will be met by a refusal to pay it and a consequent vacancy of stores. By it the local retail trade will be seriously effected, and it will be well to carefully consider what the outcome will be before taking such an important step. The demands on our retail traders are heavy enough already.

Some things that I see and hear seem to make the present and the early future a little cloudy, but in my flights around I find still other things which convince me that Fitchburg is a pretty good place to live in after all. Some of our local merchants are leaving us, but their stores are, I think, all spoken for, and the future seems a little more encouraging, even to such a dreary bird as a raven. In one of my flights quite recently I saw a builder, in company with two or three other men, looking over some property with a view of building on it, and I gathered from them and others that the building prospects are quite good. In addition to the Mitchell concern I understand the Orswell Mill company contemplates putting on a large addition, and I have heard another builder say that never before since he was in the business had he been asked to figure on so many jobs, so early in the season, as this year. That seems encouraging, and I hope our rugged little city will keep on adding to herself for years to come. Now I don't want to be a croaker nor a preacher, but I hope the workers in the building trades will not do anything that may tend to injure the little boom that appears to be settling around the city. Every one believes, or should, in a man being paid for his labor, and I think that as a whole the builders here are inclined to treat the men liberally, still I do not believe that ten hours' pay will be given for nine hours' work unless in the nine hours as much work is accomplished as now is done in ten. Last year saw a little trouble in this direction, but nothing of much consequence. Let us hope that wise councils will prevail on both sides this year, and that the most will be made of the opportunities before us by employer and laborer alike.

ROES PAVEN.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE

Office Toilet Supply Service?

FURNISHED BY THE

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO,

229 MAIN STREET.

A PUBLIC GYMNASIUM.

BY MISS ANNIE LOUISE HITCHCOCK.

The following is one of the essays entered for the High School contest and is considered one of the best sent in.

When a stranger comes to Fitchburg for the first time, the people, as is natural, wish to show him all there is to be seen of interest, which makes the city pleasant, and which gives it a good standing among the other towns of this vicinity.

Attention may be called to the depot, in which handsome building, the people may find comfort and enjoyment, while waiting.

The court-house is admired by every one. The Public Library and Art Building receive a favorable comment. The churches, the public schools, and private residences are visited and admired.

At each of these, the visitor will express words of praise, but after thinking over every enterprise of this thriving city, he finds one thing lacking, which seems necessary for the welfare of every city, whether large or small. This one thing lacking is a public gymnasium for girls, as well as one for boys.

To be sure, the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium deserves mention; but in many places, the question is deemed so important that a class of this kind is connected with the schools, giving each pupil a chance to enjoy the benefits, derived from a gymnasium that is properly conducted.

During the warm weather, the sports, tennis, base-ball, rowing, and other amusements requiring energy, furnish good exercise to all who indulge in them.

But when the cold weather and the first snows come, and the racket and bat are laid reluctantly away till the cold weather again gives place to warmer, naturally, some other amusement is required to take the place of these.

Skating will be enjoyed by some who are willing to brave the cold weather and other hindrances lying in the way.

But to give all parts of the body exercise, some things besides a pair of skates and a sheet of ice, are necessary; and the mind then turns to a gymnasium, as a place where the different parts of the body may receive special training, with beneficial results.

A variety is necessary; "all work and no play," or all study and no exercise, should not be the rule for any one.

It surely requires good judgement to know how far one should go in the exercises, as there is danger in allowing persons to go beyond their strength; at a good gymnasium, these things are carefully considered.

It would take but a short time to see the benefit wrought by a good gymnasium.

The shoulders would be straightened, the head held erect, a better circulation of the blood produced, and the health would be improved generally.

All these things form such a prominent feature in one's personal appearance, that the subject should receive much thought.

It must not be thought that a gymnasium should be reserved for a few only, and is out of the reach of many people, for this important question concerns every one.

The invention of the gymnasium can, by no means, be attributed to this generation, although improvements have probably been made as the years have advanced. Ancient History tells us of gymnasia in Athens and Rome, where exercise, such as running, leaping, boxing, etc. were combined with study; although the study formed a prominent part, the training of the various parts of the body was, by no means, ignored. It is this feature of their training that has helped to make the name of Greece so famous, and to be always taken as the standard in works of art, where the perfect human form is to be considered. From that time, other countries have given much attention to this question. And why should not Fitchburg, which has shown itself so ready to promote the welfare of its citizens, take the lead in a matter of such public importance? USA.

Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,
187 MAIN ST.
EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

A. H. BURGESS,
Druggist
AND APOTHECARY
248 MAIN STREET,
FITCHBURG, - - - - MASS.

D. G. HORTON,
Manufacturer of and Dealer in
BREAD, CAKE
—AND—
PASTRY.
CRACKERS OF ALL KINDS.
306 Main St., - Fitchburg

INFANTS' FOOD!
Large assortment,
Every kind that's made,
AT BOTTOM PRICES.

D. H. JOEL,
DRUGGIST. - 207 MAIN ST.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.
ARTISTIC
FLORAL DESIGN WORK,
A SPECIALTY.
F. O. WILLARD,
FLORIST,
GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.
Telephone 13-3.

E. C. STOWE,
DEALER IN
LEAD, JAPANS.
OIL,
SHELLACS, PAINTS,
VARNISHES.
HOUSE PAINTING, HARD OIL FINISH, GRAINING, VARNISHING, ETC.
302 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MASS.

THE LICK OBSERVATORY.

A Peep at the Moon From Mount Hamilton.
[Correspondence of the Traveller.]

ALAMEDA, Cal., Jan. 26.—To visit California without a trip to Mt. Hamilton, would be a great mistake, as anyone will say who has ever gazed upon that remarkable monument, the Lick Observatory, and fully realized the magnificence of the bequest and its great benefit to science. If ever a man received post-mortem praise unstinted, it was James Lick, whose body rests beneath the great telescope.

He lived alone and unloved; was eccentric and selfish to a fault. The final act of his life was in distinct contradiction to his apparent nature, and caused a tremendous surprise.

Mr. Lick died about 15 years ago, leaving an estate worth nearly $4,000,000, which, with the exception of a few private bequests, he gave to the state of California for various noble purposes.

Of this sum $700,000 was for the construction and equipment of the present observatory, his largest bequest, showing it to be a pet scheme of public benefaction. He also selected the site, having evidently studied the ground, and the wisdom of his choice has been abundantly demonstrated.

To reach Mt. Hamilton, one must go by rail to San Jose, a distance of about 40 miles.

It was my pleasure not long since to join a party of tourists at that place at a most opportune time, it being the full moon season.

We left San Jose at 1 P. M.

Our party consisted of 12 persons, including the driver and an irrepressible drummer.

From start to finish the road is perfection, and for five miles or more after leaving the city we drive along Santa Clara avenue, a splendidly macadamized, level road which passes by many of the most noted vineyards and orchards, and is lined on either side with pine and cypress trees.

The road gradually begins to ascend after a few miles, until Lick avenue is reached, which leads to the observatory. This thoroughfare is more than 20 miles long, and it cost $75,000. The grade, which is very slight, does not exceed 6 feet in 100, and all sorts of teams make the ascent easily.

In making the winding ascent the panorama was varied and rarely beautiful as the sun descended over the Santa Clara Valley. All that seemed lacking to the critical eye, to round out the picture and complete the landscape below, was a visable stream of water or lake so familiar in New England.

Within two miles of the summit we alighted at a hotel where we indulged in a most delicious trout supper, embellished with the usual accompaniments.

We found here a class of 200 students on their way to study the stars.

At our practical drummer's suggestion we moved on in advance, arriving at the summit at 8 P. M.

From the hotel on, the road has to overcome a vertical rise of nearly 2000 feet and it ascends in a zigzag course. At some points a dozen laps of its windings can be seen at one glance, within a distance of half a mile. Near the summit it winds twice round the peak.

A great change of temperature is experienced, and heavy furs and wraps are absolutely necessary.

The wind simply howls, sounding weird enough from the interior of the domes.

Our surprise was very great on arriving, to see so large a building, and a small village in addition.

Prof. Holden and family reside here, as well as many students, and the various hands employed in and around the observatory. The public is only admitted on Saturday; and only a few, not more than six, are alowed to approach the telescope at a time, and but one minute is allowed each person to peer and behold.

Loud talking, although not forbidden, is not indulged in; and, indeed, one feels no inclination, especially toward frivolity. On the contrary, a feeling of awe, amounting almost to reverence, possesses one.

The one moment allotted us to observe that prismatic diamond in the blue vault overhead, through that wonderful telescope, will never be forgotten. Words fail to fitly describe it, or our feelings.

In the north dome we were permitted to gaze a little longer through the 12-inch equatorial at the full moon, being raised in a chair by pulleys, for the purpose. One young man was so lost in admiration as to be oblivious to surroundings or of those patiently waiting their turn. Our drummer at this point horrified us all by shouting, "Birdie, come off your perch." Needless to say, the hint was taken, and we were given a chance to repeat his act, as the temptation was strong to remain longer than the time allotted. Some one is always present to impart information, and explain the mysteries of the heavens.

The two hours passed at the observatory were too short to go the rounds, but many things are stored in memory, principally the sight of the old wooden bench on which James Lick earned his first money as a poor carpenter, the library, the cheerful open-grate fires, the enthusiasm of the students and attendants, the air of comfort, the subdued atmosphere pervading the entire building.

On departing, our drummer gave vent to his pent-up emotion, by giving a hearty college yell.

We made the descent in four hours.

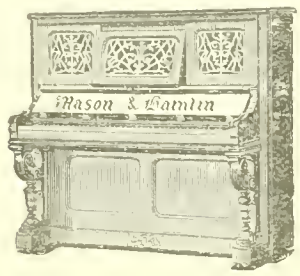
As a tribute to James Lick it is fitting to say that this monument will live in history as probably the grandest achievement by any one man.

The scholars who are endeavoring to probe the mysteries of the stellar world beyond, will honor him as no other man has been honored, if they do their duty by him who did such a grand duty by them.

James Lick has made it possible for California to hold a proud place in this work.

It was a grand act, performed by an unpretending citizen, in the cause of science.

MARION HOWARD.



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You can buy Musical Goods of all descriptions at a less price than any other place in Worcester County,
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PIANOS & ORGANS

From the best makers and on easy terms of payments.
Their facilities for handling goods are unsurpassed, and their warerooms replete with all the latest musical publications and musical goods.
Affable clerks are in attendance, and goods not on hand will be promptly ordered.
Tuning and Repairing by experienced workmen.

WAREROOMS:

157 MAIN STREET. 157

Telephone Connection.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY BY

WRIGHT & OLDFIELD,

360 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE:

$2.00 per year; Single copies, 5 cents.

Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter

FEBRUARY 21, 1891.

The postmastership is settled and Mr. Currier retires from the office with consciousness of duty well performed. During the past four years Mr. Currier has made many changes and improvements which the public has duly appreciated, Mr. Currier's popularity and numerously signed petition are evidence of this. It is unfortunate in many ways that our political system makes such distinctions, but the time has not yet arrived when both sides are prepared to discard the motto, "to the victors belong the spoils." Every business man in the city acknowledges that Mr. Currier is a model public servant and a very large number of them, all opposed to his political faith, united in a strong appeal to retain him. The majority of those most interested in this branch of the public service were not only willing, but anxious, that party lines should be sacrificed in favor of retaining an efficient and faithful servant, and, as we said before, it is unfortunate that our present political caprices discountenance the course. The time is coming, however, when merit and fitness will rank before politics in the public service. While we are strong believers in the Republican party we do not endorse the cry "to the victors belong the spoils."

* * *

The public will we think, as a whole be pleased that Mr. Wallace is to follow Mr. Currier in the office seeing that a change *must* be made. In fact, it seems to us that no one else has so good a claim on the situation as he has. For many years he has filled all the different positions up to assistant postmaster and is thoroughly conversant with the requirements of the office, his ability and integrity are unquestioned, if therefore, a change must be made, who is more deserving? In private business enterprises these qualities would undoubtedly meet with recognition and there are as many, if not more, reasons for following the course in the public service. We feel sure that Mr. Wallace will prove a worthy successor to Mr. Currier and will maintain the good reputation of the office. The suggestion thrown out by the *Sentinel* is probably only speculation, but if it could be carried out it would in several ways be a good thing and would doubtless meet with public approval.

* * *

It is 49 years since Charles Dickens first visited America, and in the face of the ovations in his honor he thundered his denunciation of the Copyright law in this country which recognized property rights in the product of mental labor in literary fields here, and yet denied it to the non-residents. Yet today, as the law stands, the inventor of a patent button-fastener or of a rat-tail file is protected against infringement in countries across the water, while the creators of the greatest monuments of literary or artistic genius may have their works stolen, copied and garbled except within the imaginary lines that bound the territory of the United States. England, France, the German states, Belgium, Spain, Sardinia and Hesse Darmstadt grant copyrights to the citizens of all of those countries reciprocally. A similar act has passed the House of the last Congress, and is today awaiting its chance to become a law in the Senate. It is to be hoped that this body, which should be an exemplar of national intelligence, will drop political questions from its calendar in one of these last days of its session, and that the International Copyright Bill may go to the president for signature.

A. R. CHILTON,
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIONS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL ST.

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181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

A SOUVENIR
—OF—
FITCHBURG, MASS.,
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31 Different Views
—OF—
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25 Cents Each.
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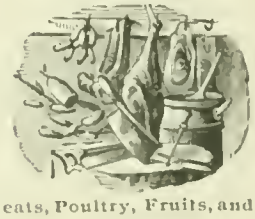

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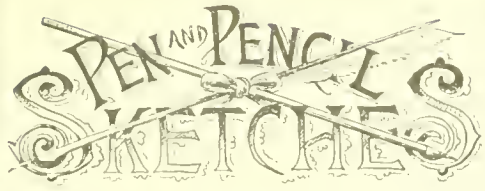

The very general response to last week's sketches proves that No. 50 is James Daley, and that No. 51 is our melodious friend, Eugene B. Roncarti.

If you have never seen No. 52 at some time or other, either at the opera house or the trotting park, you cannot have lived in Fitchburg a great many years. At the former place of amusement he was a familiar figure for several years, for the reason that he almost always occupied the same seat (you see he was a privileged character, like newspaper men, as he had an empty store lithograph privilege, which gave him the open sesame to every play that came along). No. 52 is getting along in years, however, and does not attend the theatre as regularly as of yore, but even now he occasionally drifts into the row sacred to the use of thin-haired men. He is a man of considerable property in one way or another, and a few years ago was quite a heavy owner of blooded horses, which naturally made him a frequent participant in races at the trotting park, and by his characteristic remarks he added zest to the sport for the spectators. Our subject is still to be seen now and then exercising a fast horse in a trotting gig, but as a fancier of fleet steeds he is not the man he once was. His love of turf is not by any means gone by, and he may be seen at the park, at Whalom or on the Leominster road now when there is any sport, and you will find him either among the racers or the judges, but, as we said before, he is getting along in years and is content to leave that sort of thing more to the younger generation, while he pursues the even tenor of his way. He has been at the old stand, not far from city hall, a good many years. Who is No. 52?

No. 53 is a native of this city and has been a leading merchant on Main street for close on to 40 years. For a number of years he has figured in politics and was once a representative in the legislature, and has also figured in city politics as a candidate for mayor. He was not elected, as he headed the citizens' ticket, so called, and this particular year the majority of the people voted No License and no citizens' mayor, whether they meant it or not. Our subject is considerable of a writer, and at different times, in the heat of political discussions over presidential elections and free trade and protection theories, has carried on able arguments on his own side, and I believe retired from the field victor. Whisper it softly, as it is now the spring of the year, he is also something of a poet, and not long since his ready made verse was a source of considerable amusement to a very large and influential gathering. His store ranks as one of the first of its kind in the city, and is certainly one of the very largest. He commenced business at the opposite end of the town in the hat and cap line, and for many years his shingle hung out in close proximity to that of a leading hotel. By the way, at one time he was principal owner of one of our hotels, but not the one referred to above. From his store have graduated a number of enterprising young business men, men who are noted for their square dealing and creditable transactions, and men who honor our business roll. No. 53 is also past the meridian of life. His auburn hair is beginning to be slightly tinged with gray and a trifle thinner than it was 20 years ago. Although he is a wide-awake business man, he is not often seen hurrying along, but strolls on Main street very leisurely carrying a hook cane, which often, when not walking, he hooks on his arm. Who is No. 53.

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BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER V.

SAADI'S VISION.

Later in the afternoon all assembled in the spacious dining-room of the Warfield dwelling, including Miss Pond and Barker. The latter had slept nearly all day, and consequently, having been assured by the housekeeper that if Saadi Fenlow only went into one of her "tantrums," he would witness something that he would never forget to the longest day he lived, he was in a fairly wakeful condition.

It is true that he dozed during a rather lengthy story related by James, and that several times he caught his wits wondering slightly when Miss Pond would arouse him.

Mr. Fenlow betrayed no feeling toward Edward Warfield to show that he remembered the words of the morning. In truth, he engaged the guest in a discussion upon a subject in which it appeared both were deeply interested, and so something like an appearance of friendliness grew up between them in the course of the afternoon.

It was in answer to James' suggestion that the general conversation ceased and all directed their attention to Saadi.

"I would rather not tonight," she said in faint remonstrance, but her father spoke up quickly:

"Yes, yes, you must. There will be no opposition. Mr. Warfield here believes in your powers and will not oppose his will to yours tonight."

Edward looked at her and their eyes met. There was something in her look that impelled him to go to her and ask:

"Do you really object?"

"I feel as if I were making an exhibition which has in it no good object. When I use my powers of clairvoyance there may be a value in it, but the table-tipping is almost vulgar."

A faint flush tinged her cheeks. Edward felt a sudden sympathy and liking for her beyond any that he had experienced before.

"Don't do it, then; but would you mind giving me some testimony of your powers in second sight? You believe you have done James a substantial service, and who knows but you may do equally well for me. There is no telling what dangers you might warn me to avoid, or what fortunes there may be awaiting me if I may but know how to direct my efforts to win them."

She laughed and then suddenly sobered.

"You have no faith in me!" she exclaimed.

"I have great faith in *you*."

"I mean none in the clairvoyance."

"Perhaps I have—a little, but faith grows after one has witnessed works. I am a doubting believer, like a great many who delude themselves into thinking their faiths are implicit."

"I like to have those who try me at least refrain from opposing me. There is something in the feeling that I am being ridiculed or that a will is opposed to mine that weakens my experience. I carry into the trance state a consciousness of the adverse influence and nothing comes out clearly."

"I will be passive as a child," said Warfield smiling.

"And will you not believe—a *very little*—that I can tell you something of the future as well as of the past?"

"Yes, I will try and possess my soul with a trace of belief, and with it all, remember that I have the utmost confidence in your integrity."

This was spoken with such earnestness that it brought a heightened color to Saadi's cheeks.

"And yet I shrink from it tonight," she said, after a momentary pause, while the other inmates of the room relapsed into expectant silence.

"Perhaps you are not quite well—the experience of last evening may have tired you more than you realized," said James.

"I am well and not in the least nervous," she answered, and Edward saw what he had noted once or twice before, a momentary expression of firmness that seemed to indicate a measure of will-power behind the naturally delicate organization, greatly in excess of the physical.

"She has the power to refuse as well as to yield, if she chose to be so ungracious as to use it," was the mental comment of the guest.

Saadi became silent and closed her eyes for a moment, but soon opened them again in that drooping way which Edward had marked the evening before. For fully five minutes she stood thus, with one hand raised slightly above her eyes.

Then she made a few slow passes over her face. Upon former occasions Edward Warfield had always looked upon these manœuvres as being made simply for effect

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on the observer, and that they had no actual influence upon the state of the operator, but now he found himself watching every motion with an intense, absorbed interest. He was convinced already that Saadi Fenlow was above suspicion of fraud. She was not doing this to deceive either him or the others; and if not, what was her object? Did the mystical passes really have an effect upon her consciousness?

As he thought of it from the standpoint of a candid observer it seemed to him that the beliefs of others might be founded as thoroughly upon their experience and reason as was his own scepticism. It is a great deal to say that a few know the truth and discern the error, while many are deceived, and even if the various faiths are all self-deception, surely there must be something to account for a tendency that controls the multitude.

It cannot even be said that superstition abides in the nature of no member of the animal kingdom but man. Dogs often manifest an impulse plainly akin to it. Horses are afraid of what they do not see rather than of that which is visible. Natural phenomena like earthquakes and volcanic disturbances are usually portended in the instincts of both wild and domestic beasts, and primitive races of man and the children of the more highly civilized, alike show an instinctive credulity concerning what we call the supernatural. And, in truth, to reject the possibility of manifestations which are contrary to known or natural laws is to strike a blow at the fountain-heads of every known religion, whether it be the Zend Avesta of Zoroaster, the law that guided the Hebrew nation and inspired its prophets, the patheistic ethics of Spinoza or the realms of the Unknowable which are recognized by modern agnosticism.

It was something like this that passed through the mind of Edward Warfield as he watched the manœuvres of Saadi.

"If ever truth or prophecy were inspired, why not now?" he asked himself, and then his condition of mind became more receptive to the girl's influence.

Belief in her integrity was the first step toward a belief in the influences that controlled her. For that she *was* controlled by something superior to her own conscious will, if not really outside of herself, no one could have doubted while watching her.

"Can you see now, Miss Fenlow?" Edward asked, drawing near and looking into her face.

She did not answer or move. He touched the hand that hung limply at her side, raised it, clasped lightly in his own. She gave a start as he did so and drew a quick breath as though she had been frightened.

"Aha!" she exclaimed, in a low, distinct voice, "I see it now."

"What do you see?" he asked, thrilled by such a feeling as he had never experienced before.

"Nothing," she answered.

"You were going to tell me about myself," he said, speaking in a voice which was unconsciously gentle and persuasive.

"What do you wish to know?"

"Everything, all about my future especially. Of the past I do not need to have you speak, though you may do so if you cannot help seeing it."

"I see but little of you," she returned slowly. "Only," she added, "you have been so discontented. You started wrong. You should have had a home."

"There was only one way to get one," said Warfield smiling, "and that was to marry, and I have been waiting until I could find some one—"

"You will never find one," she interrupted.

"And why not, pray?"

She was silent a long time. Then she suddenly cried out, as though in pain:

"No, no!"

Her form shook with sudden, intense emotion like terror. Her face betrayed the same feeling, and her eyelids lifted a little as if to show the horror in her eyes.

Warfield's pulses quickened responsively, in spite of his natural power of self-control. It was as if he had been brought suddenly face to face with some dreadful experience.

"What is it?" he asked.

"You must not—the ring!" she cried.

"The ring—and what of that?"

"Do not try to find out who wore it; do not look for him. It is not for you to know!"

An impulse of opposition possessed Edward, the natural impulse which usually led him in all his pursuits. It seemed to him that he was being forbidden to discover the meaning of a mystery, when it was contrary to his nature to tolerate mysteries that touched his experience.

The ring—the one which he had found so mysteriously on his table, and which corresponded with that which Saadi had seen in her vision, was in his pocket, and now he involuntarily took it out and held it in his fingers.

In doing so he seemed to intensify the suffering of the girl. She quivered from head to feet as though under the most mortal pain, while low moans escaped her whitening lips.

Ordinarily Edward could not have withstood the sight of such unmistakable suf-

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fering, even though he knew it came through the medium of the imagination, without doing something to alleviate or end it, but he was possessed with a fierce sense of antagonism to her demand that he should not try to solve the mystery. There was something almost cruel in his opposition.

So strong were her signs of distress that James started toward his brother with outstretched hand.

"Stop!" he cried, "you are giving her pain."

Edward firmly thrust him back.

"Stay," he answered. "You do not know why you interfere. You must not break in upon what you may choose to call a revelation."

James obeyed, but still stood with Saadi's suffering reflected upon his face.

Miss Pond was giving away to a fit of twitching and quirking, as was her habit when disturbed, and Barker, for once, was wide awake, his eyes open to their widest capacity.

Only Mr. Fenlow remained unmoved. He watched the proceedings with silent interest.

"Saadi," said Edward, in a firm tone, "what is it that distresses you?"

"You must not try to find him," she returned. "No, no, no!"

The words were interspersed with moans, as though they cost her a most painful effort.

"Why not?" persisted the other.

"Do not ask. Oh, that ring! Why do you cling to it? Give it up. Never ask about, never search for the one who wore it. It is such a fatal quest, for it is not for you to know."

"The ring belongs to some one who secretly visited my room," said Edward, in his quiet tones, "and I must know who it is. There can be no harm in trying to solve the mystery or to expose a trick, for it is a trick."

"No, no, no!" reiterated Saadi.

"I shall insist unless you explain why I should not do so, and the reason is a good one."

"I have told you it will be fatal."

"Fatal to whom?"

She shuddered and was silent. Then she moaned again as with renewed pangs. At the same time she raised the hand which was at liberty to her throat and cried:

"There—there!"

"What is there?" Edward gently asked.

"Such pain. It was a blow with—with—I cannot tell what, but it gleams in the light like steel, and—yes, it is a struggle!"

A wild cry as of mingled pain and terror came from her lips, so loud and sharp that it rang through the house.

Exclamations of dismay came from Miss Pond and even the apathetic Barker. Saadi had wrenched her hand free from Edward's clasp and began beating the air as if she were engaged in a deadly struggle with a powerful antagonist. Her face was pale as death and she panted with her exertions, at the same time stepping back and back as though yielding inch by inch in the struggle, until she reached the wall.

"Stop, stop, Saadi! Awake!" cried James, springing toward her. He thrust his brother forcibly aside. Edward, too, had grown pale, awed by the sight of a spectacle so terribly realistic.

Before James Warfield could reach her her struggles had grown suddenly feeble, and he was barely in time to save her from falling to the floor. She rested upon his arm, a lifeless weight. He bore her to the lounge, while Edward flew to a cupboard which he well knew where to find and returned with a flask of brandy.

Some of the liquor was forced betwixt her tightly closed lips, and yet it was some time before she showed signs of returning life. The moment she did so she began to struggle again, as though the imaginary conflict had ended only because she was unable to sustain her share in it.

Mr. Fenlow, who until then had remained seated and watched the proceedings with the air of an interested but not a closely concerned spectator, now rose and came forward.

"She is still in her trance, and to revive her from the swoon will only bring back her suffering," he declared in his velvety tones.

"Then in God's mercy bring her out of it!" cried Edward with a fierce glance at Fenlow.

"That is what I was about to do, if you will please to stand out of my way," was the retort.

They gave place to him and he knelt beside the lounge and placed one hand upon the girl's forehead, which was white as marble and beaded with perspiration.

There seemed to be something magical in his touch. He stroked her hands and cheeks, first in an ordinary manner and afterwards more like the passes with which hypnotic sleep is thrown off.

As a result, Saadi first became passive, ceasing to evince either that vague terror or physical pain which she had before manifested, then her eyes opened and she looked up into her father's face.

"Are you comfortable, Saadi?" he asked.

"Yes," she answered after a languid pause.

"Then you had better rest. Go to sleep if you can."

"I am very tired," she replied. Then her eyes closed and she began almost immediately to breath heavily, showing that she had indeed fallen into as quiet and natural a slumber as that of a child.

Mr. Fenlow sat by her for a few minutes and then returned to his seat by the table.

"You think she will be all right when she awakes?" James asked.

"Yes, though her fatigue may not have passed away wholly."

"Did you ever see her so violently affected before?"

"No, sir."

"It was horrible, Mr. Fenlow. I will never hazard such an experience again under my roof. I would not have permitted it had I known—"

"It is nothing any one is responsible for—at least, not you," was the quick reply.

"Do you consider me the responsible one, Mr. Fenlow?" Edward demanded.

"Not directly so. You persisted when she told you to cease."

"I persisted in what?"

"Your determination to probe a matter which she said was not for you to know."

"Do you advise one to be frightened out of looking into anything because of the nervous terror of a sensitive girl? Why, this is all a result of a terrible practice—a jugglery with the sensibilities of one too

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finely strung to attempt such experiences. The practice has weakened her, and if it is persisted in her very reason may be sacrificed."

"Do you deny that she sees and discovers things beyond the scope of ordinary faculties?"

"I deny nothing. I know—have always believed—that there were many unexplained psychical laws which we call supernatural simply because we do not understand them. I am sorry, on your daughter's account, that I consented to her trying to use her clairvoyant powers in connection with my history, either future or past. There is something in me that antagonizes such things and I cannot help it. It wasthe resistance which so excited her."

"Do you think so?"

"Yes."

"Perhaps it was, but if you are to follow my advice you will heed her's."

"What do you mean?"

"She told you not to probe the mystery which seems to be troubling you, but of which you have said nothing to me. I suppose you confided the matter to Saadi in the first place, and that while you pretend to have no faith in her visions, you really wished to see if she could not give you some light through her powers of second sight."

"What about the ring which seemed to excite her so?" James asked as Edward was silent.

"It is one which I found."

"When?"

"Today."

"Here, in this house?"

"In my room."

"May I see it?"

Edward gave the ring to James, who scrutinized it closely.

"Have you ever seen it before?" the other asked.

"No, but Saadi—"

"Well, what about Saadi?"

"She spoke of such a ring on the finger of—of the one who—"

"I understand—the unknown purchaser of your property, and that is the mystery which I am resolved to clear up. I am not so submissive in spirit as to be terrified into such quiescence by a series of visions. When I sell property I prefer to know who buys it, and one who tries to hoodwink me by any such jugglery as has been practiced in this house will only make me the more determined not to be hoodwinked."

"Rebellious in spirit as ever, brother mine," said James, with a smile as a foil to Edward's vehement earnestness.

"The same rebellious nature, hardened by a few added years—that is all," was the reply.

Saadi slept until supper time, and when she awoke she had hardly strength sufficient to walk across the room.

"The poor critter is a killin' of herself," said Miss Pond privately to Barker.

"Must be she sees ghosts when she's in them spells," was Barker's philosophic observation, to which Miss Pond replied, with one of her most vehement jerks:

"We'll all on us git so befuddled with her witchery that we can't sleep o' nights, if she keeps on. For my part, I daresn't go a step after candle-light without lookin' behind me to see what's a-follerin'."

Immediately after supper Edward took Saadi aside and said:

"The time has come for me to begin. I cannot allow this mystery to rest. I do not think it is a serious matter, by any means, and I wish you to think of it more lightly. Have you any recollection of your experience this afternoon?"

She shuddered, but smiled at the same time.

"A most vivid recollection," she replied.

"Is it too much to ask that you explain it?"

"No. You ought to know what it was. I did not then have the power to explain. I seemed to see you searching for something, and all at once you were attacked. Then, as is always the case when I am foreseeing the experience of another, their identity becomes merged into mine, and then—"

She covered her face with her hand.

"And then," persisted Warfield, calmly.

"There was a struggle, and something bright—a knife, I think—struck me there," and she raised her hand to her throat.

"Who struck the blow?"

"I could not see him, but the hand—on one finger—was that ring."

"That will do. You have thought about it too deeply. Do not concern yourself about it again. I am now going to my room, and when I return I believe I shall have found a clue to the mystery."

He started to go, but she caught his arm with a nervous laugh.

"I wish you wouldn't," she exclaimed.

He gently released himself with the reply:

"I shall solve the mystery tonight." Then he hurried up to his room.

(To be continued.)

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The recent disappearance of a prominent bank official from a place so near our own doors sets people thinking, and the conclusion arrived at by many is that the old New England states must fast be becoming a stock-brokers' and bucket-shop keepers' paradise. A few years ago there was not much of this kind of speculation, at least not much comparatively, but now business circles seem to be honeycombed with it, and it is hard to say who it does and does not effect. Surely it is time to recommend a halt. There is, perhaps, not much of it in this city, though some forms of it do exist here. Can a live business man afford to spend time and thought over this form of business speculation when actively engaged in carrying on another business? Will it not deter him from giving to his ordinary calling that push and attention necessary to successfully conduct it? There cannot be much question as to the truth of the assertion that from small beginnings it leads a man on to larger risks, and eventually it draws a man entirely within the whirl of excitement connected with this form of commercial transactions. A man is ambitious and eager to become prosperous. The papers devote columns every day to the stock brokers' business, and when a great and unusual speculative operation on the exchange excites the financial market, either successfully or disastrously, comment is free and widespread. To a person who has speculated a little this master operation is peculiarly fascinating, and the thought rises to his mind unbidden, "If I had only had something on that deal." It is not to be wondered at that the ambitious, eager and enterprising man drifts into the meshes. He risks a little of his own money, meets with successes and reverses, but becomes bolder by both experiences. He sees what he believes is a chance to make a bigger and better deal than ever and risks all he has. If he is successful the temptation becomes greater still; if unsuccessful, then he must bend all his energies to recover himself. He must have money to work with, for, while there is much business done on credit and confidence in this particular line, there is one class that cannot go in very deep without money to pave the way. Borrowing follows, and the victim is then working on credit created on very risky possibilities. It may be that in accomplishing this feat of credit-creating this active trader only exercised his talents in a legitimate way, for it is no dishonor to work with your creditors' money if you have a reasonable prospect of being able to repay it with interest in due course. Besides, in large trading transactions it often happens that a lucky turn in the market will convert a risky venture into a secure one. Credit is made so easy in these days that men are encouraged to the continual embarking in hazardous enterprises, into which they enter like desperate gamblers, staking all their future upon a lucky venture. Thus trade becomes more than ever a lottery, not depending, as in the old days, upon a steady building up of financial security, but upon chance. In nine cases out of ten these plungers come to grief, it is true, but the exceptional successes are the luring examples which the easy credit system renders it impossible for many to resist. Where everything is to gain and nothing to lose the temptation is indeed great. The small man of business who plods on without pretense or sham, feeling his way as he goes, would as soon expect the aid of an invisible spirit as that the long vistas of credit, which open as if by magic to his bolder and more self-asserting rival, should be gratuitously revealed to him. But while the laws of credit remain so ill-defined, they are capable of being almost entirely abrogated by the unscrupulous. Thus many who before coming involved in speculative and risky enterprises were content to plod slowly and surely along, are led on from step to step, first small sums, then larger, first on their own money, then on borrowed. After this often the money of others is taken surreptitiously, and when the deal fails and the crash follows, the popular course is unwilling flight to our Canadian colony.

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That the Barlow Bros. Minstrel Co. was a fine one and pleased every body.

That Charles H. Rhoades has opened a real estate and insurance of fire in Allen's block.

That the Leominster Co-operative bank has some fine rooms and are well accommodated.

That in the death of Thomas B. Wilder we have lost one of our oldest and most respected citizens.

That the bean supper given by the Woman's Relief Corps was a good one and was well attended.

That some very brilliant whist parties have been given the past week and that more are to come this coming week.

That Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Potter of Fitchburg have been engaged by the Orthodox church the coming year.

Erva Ames will open a stationary and book store within a few days. He will also keep a large stock of confectionery. We wish "Shorty" much success.

That the Leominster Band will have a benefit the coming week in the shape of a concert and dance. The Russell Orchestra has been engaged for the occasion.

That the members of the fire department are earning their money this year if never before. Two such fires as we have had within a week are enough to try men's souls.

Louis Nixon wears his hand done up in a sling the result of getting too well acquainted with a very sharp knife while at work cutting at the Wachusett Shirt Co's. factory.

That at last the officers have raided the notorious Marshall House at North Leominster and their visit was not in vain. Mr. Coleman will answer to the complaint in March.

That the Golden Lion is the latest of the many benefit orders started in town within the past few months; this order having been instituted last week by S. W. Sawyer of Fitchburg.

That the Leominster club will soon give a "ladies night" at their club room, which it is expected will be a swell affair. All the ladies are looking forward to it with much pleasure.

That Henry Cook is creating lots of talk by the ground he takes on the coming election being run on party lines. "What shall we do at our caucus" is getting to be quite a question.

That the social parties under the management of a few of our young men, are a social success and the first of the series was well attended and most enjoyable. The next party in the course will be held next Thursday the 26th.

"Millie the Quadroon" was again given at the town hall last Saturday evening. The cast was changed some what, Mr. Fred Spill very acceptably assuming the part of the doctor formerly taken by Dr. Ross of Fitchburg.

That horse trotting on the plain has become quite "the thing" with all our horse men and each afternoon can be seen some exciting "brushes." Horses from Fitchburg and Clinton join in the sports, but "who has the fastest horse" is yet an unsettled question.

The Electric Light Co. is creating quite a boom in store lighting. R. B. Andrews, A. B. Merrill and Conant & Morse being among the latest to adopt this system of lighting. The company has also introduced incandesent lights into a number of dwelling houses in the past few weeks.

That the Farmer Mechanics club are laying out for a very successful year. That there seems to be more than usual interest manifested among the members and a good lively year's work is anticipated. We shall have the horse trot the same as in the past few years which proves such an attraction. The Leominster Band has been secured for the occasion.

Rollstone Creamery,

231 MAIN ST.,

Next door to the City Steam Laundry.

MILK, CREAM, BUTTER

—AND—

CREAMERY SUPPLIES,

Fresh and nice every day.

☞ Give us a call.

SEASON 1890-91.

FIFTH ANNUAL

ANNOUNCEMENT

OF THE

Y. M. C. A.

POPULAR COURSE

—OF—

ENTERTAINMENTS

AT CITY HALL.

The Association now presents with a great degree of satisfaction and confidence, the announcement of their Fifth Popular Course. The appreciation of this department of the Y. M. C. A. work by the public, and also by the membership, has been manifested during the past two seasons by the most liberal patronage and support. The committee in charge therefore feel like reciprocating in the matter, and have contracted for some of the very best talent in the field. A perusal of the list will be sufficient proof of the fact.

FRIDAY, MAR. 13.

CONCERT

BY THE

Temple Male Quartette

OF BOSTON,

ASSISTED BY

MISS BERTHA SILSBY, Cornetist,

MISS LUCIA MEAD PRIEST, Reader.

SINGLE TICKETS,	-	25 CENTS.
RESERVED SEAT,	-	35 CENTS.

Members of the Association can obtain tickets of admission to the course free on application to the General Secretary. Reserved Seats 50 cents extra. Course Tickets are now on sale by members and by the General Secretary at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms; also by Macurda & Sawyer and J. E. Thompson.

☞ The committee feel that after presenting such an array of talent, so well known for marked ability, that it is perfectly absurd to urge the public to "Pack the House," "Crowd the House," or "Make it Standing Room Only," for

"EVERYBODY IS GOING THIS YEAR."

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

Stuart Robson is meeting with remarkable success in his Southern tour. In many of the principal cities the seats have all been sold before his arrival, and in some of them extra matinees have had to be given in order to satisfy the demand.

Mrs. Langtry never played Cleopatra in this country, but she produced the play in England during the present season, and it is said that she made a great success in the character.

A second Ship Ahoy company is soon to be put on the road by Manager J. M. Hill.

Lotta played to phenomenally large business at the Baldwin Theatre, San Francisco. She closed last Saturday in Pawn Ticket 210 to $2,600 on the day. Her engagement throughout was great.

The great Fanny Kemble, Mrs. Butler, is still living in London at a very advanced age. Fanny Kemble is a niece of Mrs. Siddons. Mrs. Butler continues to write the most charming letters to her few remaining friends in America, and is still in possession of all her faculties.

Rich and Harris have commenced work on the new theatre which they are to build in Boston, which is to be ready in September. This new house will cut a more extensive figure in Boston theatricals than any of the present houses that are playing combinations. Charles Frohman's stock company will open it with "Men and Women" for six weeks, commencing next September, and at the conclusion of that engagement Mr. Frohman will offer to Boston a stock company of its own. Special people are now being engaged.

E. W. Varney, Jr., has purchased Mr. Wilfred North's interest in The Vendetta, which is to be produced next season with W. A. Whitecar in the principal role. Mr. Varney is now ordering an immense quantity of attractive printing for his play. He will use nothing but lithographs and will bill the entertainment "out of sight." The play, which has already been successfully done in a number of cities, will start off with a big boom early in the autumn.

Monroe & Rice dissolve partnership April 20. Eight days later Aunt Bridget's Baby, under the management of Robert B. Monroe, will be produced in Council Bluffs with George W. Monroe, supported by Monroe's Celebrities. Elaborate preparations are in progress. De Grimm is at work on sketches for the costumes, scenery and printing. Nellie Rosebud will play the role of the Baby.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

At the Park theatre "Ship Ahoy" seems to be "docked" for a long stay. And no wonder for it is a bright, catchy and witty piece and tickles the popular favor. If you are in the city call and see it. The Boston *Globe* says editorially of it: "One reason why it has taken the town by storm is that it is not only a dashing and dainty opera, with all the snap and go of Pinafore in it, but is besides a thoroughly American production. The libretto and the score are both of native creation. The result is a charming light opera, full of Yankee music and Yankee wit and humor, and consequently just suited to Yankee taste.

Dixey closes his engagement at the Globe theatre tonight. This week Adonis has been presented and being his famous and favorite impersonation it has drawn large audiences, all favorably disposed towards the famous actor, and his reception has been quite enthusiastic. Next week Lydia Thompson in her new frolicsome piece "The Dazzler," is the attraction.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal close their second week at the Hollis street theatre, tonight. The plays have been "All for Her" and "The Weaker Sex." They have hit public favor evidently for they commence their third week with a change of repertoire and promise to continue doing big business. The Boston papers speak of the Kendals in the most flattering terms.

At the Boston theatre Hoyt's "A Trip to Chinatown" is drawing good houses and creating unlimited fun. The play is of the almost plotless variety, giving room for an endless amount of specialty work, including a great amount of skirt dancing and high kicking. Next week Howard Specialty Company.

"The Solicitor" and "Betty's Finish" at the Boston Museum still continues to draw crowded houses and delights all patrons. The third month begins Monday and the laughing comedy may be termed an enormous success. "The Solicitor" is worthy a special visit to Boston to see it.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Monday evening the opera house was turned into a variety hall and Lester & Allen's variety company dealt out some of the spices of life. The program was varied enough to suit the most fastidious and the audience was very liberal in applause. The artists were all good in their respective roles and, although a few inevitable chestnuts were visible, the entertainment was first.

Paul Kauvar a strong and brilliant French drama is the attraction for Thursday evening. The piece is a vivid and realistic story of the reign of terror in France, and several of the scenes and situations are the strongest ever made known on any stage. There is a guillotine tableau introduced as a dream, a mob scene and several striking and thrilling situations.

Friday evening the beautiful war play "A Fair Rebel" holds the fort. As usual a noble, beautiful Southern girl is loved and reciprocates. Capt. Mason, a Union officer is the lover. Her patriotism, however, makes his uniform unbearable in her eyes. It is at about the close of the was in 1864, and Mason, on leave, finds himself at the manor-house, near Richmond. Clairette has a cousin who is bitterly jealous of the love which his keen instinct tells him exists between the young couple. To rid the house of Mason's presence, he sends word to Clairette's brother, an officer in the Confederate army, that an Union officer is at the house and paying attention to his sister. The troops soon come on the scene and a thrilling climax is reached when Mason is discovered. In Libby Prison, the great revolving scene, are shown prisoners of war, and Col. Mason preparing to effect his escape through the tunnel to the street. This is realistically achieved, and the whole scene revolves in less than six seconds.

OPERA HOUSE.

SATURDAY, FEB 21,

ATKINSON & COOK'S MINSTRELS.

THURSDAY, FEB. 26,

PAUL KAUVAR.

FRIDAY, FEB. 27,

The Fair Rebel.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

Boston, Feb. 21, 1891.

Tomorrow will be the birthday of the immortal Washington, whom we all delight to honor. Without the genius of Cæsar or Napoleon, he has a far purer fame, as his ambition was of a higher and loftier nature. To George Washington alone, in modern history, has it been given to accomplish a wonderful revolution and yet remain at all future time the theme of a people's gratitude. He is truly an example of virtuous and beneficent power.

How many of you know the origin of the stars and stripes? A few years ago I came across a little pamphlet from which I learned that the shield of the Washington family bore stars and stripes. It is believed, in fact declared, that our flag was thus designed, in compliment to the illustrious general.

Grave-diggers, attention! A very odd but sensible organization was formed here recently, called the New England Cremation Society, with John Storer Cobb, editor of *The Nationalist*, as its president. At a second meeting held last Tuesday at 77 Boylston street, many new members were enrolled, including several young women. Letters of approval were read from clergymen, physicians, professors and prominent men and women of note. Three dollars per year will save you from being eaten by worms, and for sanitary reasons the subject of cremation ought to command the attention of all thinking persons.

To sit or not to sit? Whether 'tis better to drink one's morning cocktail sitting down or to revert to the old-time custom of standing up to take that drink, was the question the liquor law committee tried to solve last Friday. The discussion was prolonged before a large audience, including many women, and some of the arguments were unique, to say the least. Including those in favor of a repeal of the law was Mrs. T. A. Scott of the Mass. Temperance Home, who claims, as the result of her observation, that furnishing seats increased drunkenness. The hearing will be continued at some future time.

At a meeting of the Butler club in honor of Lincoln a few evenings since, General Butler expressed a wish that the American flag might wave so far north as to be mistaken for the Aurora Borealis. So say we all of us.

The Women's Relief Corps camp-fire has been out so long that it will be only from "chestnut" boughs I can resurrect those promised sparks. The scenes of Encampment week were vividly recalled, however, and many stirring speeches were made. Mrs. Mary E. Knowles, the retiring president, was made the recipient of flowers and loving gifts of significant value. Well may Fitchburg be proud of the honor of possessing Corps No. 1 of this grand organization. May the triple chain of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty bind these patriotic workers together firmly.

It is said that Mayor Matthews issued an order to the police department that no man wearing a G. A. R. badge should be "pulled in."

A member of the Relief Corps, accompanied by a friend, went out in search of a servant girl not long ago, and passing by the Boylston building it occurred to them that the elevator boy might be able to impart some desired information. R. C. member—"Is there an intelligence office in this building?" E. B.—"Oh, yes, in room 17." (N. B. This room is occupied as department headquarters of the W. R. C. and an *intelligent* office sure.)

It was a foregone conclusion that St. Paul's would be filled Monday noon when Phillips Brooks preached his first Lenten sermon "to men only." Being a woman I could not get there. These noon hours to business men will shed an influence throughout the entire week.

The Boston Republicans are still anxious to oust the hero of Altoona from the post office. As we have so few of our brave generals left, it seems an unpatriotic and partisan move and a poor compliment to a man whom Gen. Sherman so loved and respected.

This from *The Bostonian:* "The indications for Boston and vicinity point to continued areas of foul streets, with snow or dirt, removed by Providence. Large gatherings of slowly-shifting street cars are likely to continue in Washington and Tremont streets. The depression will be central in Tremont, near School and Bromfield, and pedestrians hereabouts are cautioned not to leave port without hoisting cautionary signals. For Sunday: A less smoky atmosphere with decreased humidity. *Vessels* will have some difficulty in crossing the *bar*."

The Lenten season has not affected the attendance at the theatres. "The Solicitor" and "Betty's Finish" will be withdrawn in another week. Two performances on Monday at the Boston Museum.

Be sure you visit the new cyclorama of Jerusalem in the Gettysburg building. It is our special attraction during Lent. This sacred subject has been portrayed by the artist Pierpont in an exceedingly conscientious and artistic manner.

"Chinatown" was invaded by the "400" last week and a performance given by Chinese actors. Well, if it was anything like the evolutions and antics witnessed in a San Francisco theatre, and if the orchestra was half as discordant and dreadful, those who escaped being in it are to be congratulated.

MARION HOWARD.

W. M. GRAY'S

COMBINATION SALE OF CANNED GOODS!

1 Can Corn, 1 Can Tomatoes, 1 Can St. Beans, } 25 cents.

1 Can Peas, 1 Can Lima Beans, } 25 cents.

1 Can Squash, 1 Can Pumpkin, } 25 cents.

1 Can Salmon, 1 Can Clams, } 25 cents.

1 Can Blueberries, 1 Can Strawberries, 1 Can Blackberries, } 50 cents.

1 Can Bartlett Pears, 1 Can Pineapple, 1 Can Blueberries, } 50 cents.

California Peaches, California Apricots, California Golden Drop Plums, California Egg Plums, California Damson Plums, } 4 Cans for $1.

HATS! HATS!

SPRING SHAPES NOW READY.

They are very Neat and Nobby. Call and see them.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The oldest Mason in Maine died a few days since at Skowhegan, William B. Morrill, aged 93 years. He had been connected with the Order for nearly 70 years.

Dover's Masonic temple is to cost about $100,000, and all the shares, $100 each, have been taken.

The Golden Grail paid out $42,500 in six months' endowments to members of Granite Commandery of Boston on Monday evening.

Manchester, on Thursday evening, instituted a branch of the highest degree of Redmanship, known as the Chieftain League. It will be known as Namaoskeag No. 2.

The Mutual Protection Association is to issue a new seven year certificate redeemable on the payment of seven years' dues of $2.50 a month, after five years, and of a full value of $1,000. The certificates are to be paid in numerical order.

It is stated that the capital of the Foresters in the world is $23,750,000; number of benefit members, 690,000; honorary members, 17,600; juvenile members, 88,300; companionship of the forest, 3,500; total, 799,400; increase in 1886, 15,625.

Newburyport has instituted a lodge of the Golden Grail, under the name of Harvest.

Since November 29 the Golden Grail has paid off about $300,000 in endowment claims.

An order has been introduced into the legislature to prevent persons from improperly using or wearing the badges or buttons of fraternal organizations. We hope it will pass into law. Another bill has been introduced prohibiting the placing of insurance by one person upon the life of another when the insured is under a specified age or has no knowledge that he is being insured.

Luther G. Greene, inspector of finance of Vermont, has placed a large number of assessment endowment Orders on a state black list. He has also refused to grant licenses to do business to many others.

Tuesday evening Charles W. Moore lodge, F. & A. M., conferred the Master Masons' degree on three candidates and enjoyed a collation and social time after the ceremonies.

Aurora lodge, F. & A. M., will probably confer the E. A. degree on Monday, March 2, on two candidates. On March 9 the Master Masons' degree will be conferred on one F. C. Visitors from Leominster and Clinton will be present and a banquet will follow the evening's work.

The last benevolent Order to seek admission to the long list of Orders in this city is The Elks. Several names have been secured toward forming a lodge. Further particulars may be obtained from F. D. Whipple, real estate agent.

Since last June, 81 investment, bond, redemption, benevolent and co-operative associations, as they are called, have been chartered under the laws of New Hampshire. The usual fee paid the state is $10.

The Golden Lion raised his roar in Lynn, last Saturday, and in response thereto 211 lambs took out certificates which the Lion promises to redeem one year hence paying $100 each.

ODD FELLOWS.

There are in Providence, R. I., fifteen subordinate lodges, with 2,863 members. Twenty of the lodges own buildings, containing lodge room, valued from $1,000 to $25,000.

The American Odd Fellow is a new aspirant devoted to the interests of the fraternity.

The new Encampment at Wolfboro' was instituted on Tuesday evening. It bears the name of Kingswood.

The Nashua Odd Fellows are earnestly working for a fine building in that city. Its got to come.

According to the *Monitor* there are lodges of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, composed entirely of colored men, in every state in the Union except Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and the number runs into the thousands. Lodges have also been opened in Canada and West Indies, and steps are being taken for introduction among the people of mixed blood in South America, Mexico and Central America.

GUARDIAN ENDOWMENT SOCIETY.

Last year there were 3,021 certificates issued, and 39 clubs organized.

Ninety sick and accident claims were paid, amounting to $3,892.86. Amount deposited with the state treasurer of Massachusetts, $7000.

Present membership 3,150; claims paid to date, 118; amounting to $5,142.86.

ROYAL ARCANUM.

The last official statement of the Royal Arcanum, just issued, shows that the widows and orphans of deceased members received for the year ending Dec. 31, 1890, the sum of $2,717,302.20; that the total membership was then 111,672, making a net gain of 12,662 during that year. The Order extends through 34 states and five provinces, with benefit certificates outstanding Dec. 31, 1890, of $323,000,000. The expenses to benefits in 13½ years is less than 3 per cent., and in 1890 less than 2½ per cent.

TROUBLE BREWING IN MAINE.

It is said that there will be something racy when the endowment companies and fraternal associations make their debut in the Maine legislature. Under the law, the "Iron Hall" cannot do business in Maine, as fraternal insurance concerns can only be admitted, which do a straight death beneficiary or a disability indemnity business. The Argus says that Commissioner Smith now has in his possession applications from 47 different associations desiring entrance into the state, but doing a business which the laws prohibit, they could not obtain a permit to come in. It is said that the Iron Hall and other kindred organizations will make a struggle to have the law changed so they can legally do business in Maine and are now taking steps to that end.

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Best grade of Flour at lowest prices.
Canned goods very low.
One can very best California Apricots or Cherries, one can of Peaches, two cans of Tomatoes and two cans of Corn or Peas state Maine packing, for

ONE DOLLAR.

A good can of Peas for 10c. Old Pop Corn, Boxes of choice Boneless Fish, not a bone in it. Nice Butter and Fresh Eggs. New Orleans Molasses.

PERLEY HOLMES.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.
THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE to St. Albans, St. Johns, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.

ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, ‡3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at ‡7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, ‡8.10 and 11.30 a. m., ‡2.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at ‡4.50 p. m.

‡Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
I. N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a. m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.15, prayer meeting in the chapel; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor, topic, "Letting our Light Shine," repeated by request; 11.50, a. m., Bible School; 4, p. m., Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, service of worship with short sermon by the pastor. All are cordially welcome.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Elijah a Man." Sunday School at 12 m; evening service, 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a.m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's Epworth meeting at 6 p. m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by pastor, subject, "Patriotism," a sermon for Washington's birthday; Sunday School at 12 m.; Sunday School patriotic concert at 7 p. m.; young people's service will be omitted on account of concert. All are welcome.

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, topic, "Tendencies;" Sunday School 12 m.; People's service 7 p. m., sermon by the pastor, topic, "Gold Tried in the Fire." Public cordially invited.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.,

Votes may be left at the stores of F. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY AND RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

BEST YET!

500 Pounds Chocolates,

17 CTS. PER LB.

FOR SATURDAY ONLY.

E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

SPECIAL SALE

—OF—

Winter and Shopworn GOODS

At a Great Reduction.

You can save from 25c. to $1.50 a pair on these goods.

D. H. PIERCE'S CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,

185 Main St.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

TONIGHT.

Atkinson & Cook's Minstrels at the opera house.

WEDNESDAY.

Mary Howe Concert at city hall.

THURSDAY.

Paul Kauvar at the opera house.

FRIDAY.

The Fair Rebel at the opera house.

LENT HAS COME!

PLENTY ∴ OF ∴ FISH

—AT—

The Public Markets.

No. 1. No. 2.

177 MAIN ST. 374

L. A. COUSINS.

ANOTHER

week gone and with it a great many good men and women that never heard of the little O. L. P. G. store on Day St., but there are many living that have heard of it, and many a

CUSTOMER

has been

MADE HAPPY

by buying all their Groceries of us. We guarantee to sell the best goods

FOR

the lowest possible price. We never in our

LIFE

sold any better Tea for 45 cents per pound than we are selling now. It is the regular 60-cent grade, every lady likes it and many say it equals 70c. tea.

At 16 & 20 Day St.

J. A. JOSLIN.

TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

A PARLOR SUIT

OF SIX PIECES, Custom Work, and Made by

FERDINAND & AUSTIN.

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Do your trading with the following representative firms. Every 25-cent purchase entitles you to one card. Be sure and ask for it when the purchase is made. At the expiration of three months (April 25, 1891,) the person holding the greatest number of cards will receive the PARLOR SUIT FREE OF CHARGE. Remember the cards are obtained only at the following stores.

Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St.
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T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St.
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 374 Main St
E. E. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St.
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. A. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 9

FITCHBURG, MASS., FEBRUARY 28, 1891.

$2.00 PER YEAR
15 CENTS A COPY.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

HOUSE FURNISHING EMPORIUM,

222 MAIN ST.

Improvements in our Store.

Improvements in our Stock.

More goods. Better goods.

More capital. Better facilities.

Farther in the lead than ever.

All House-Furnishing Goods at prices that defy competition.

A great trade in a Chamber Set, made to sell for $28.00, slightly imperfect, and offered for $23.00.

Carpets at the same old prices, and a big stock to select from.

New Baby Carriages just in, and they are beauties.

Look over our Store, get our prices and make your own terms, by our special system of credit.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

MR. JOHN E. KELLOGG.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

John E. Kellogg, editor of the Fitchburg *Sentinel*, was born at Amherst, Mass., July 2, 1845. He attended the public schools and academy in his native town and fitted for college at Williston Seminary, Easthampton, graduating at that institution in 1865, and at Amherst College in 1869. Among his college friends was Mayor Graves, who graduated in 1870. Before completing his college course he was Amherst reporter for several journals in that vicinity and after graduating he commenced work in the office of the Springfield *Republican*, then managed by that able editor, Samuel Bowles. From May, 1870 till October, 1871, Mr. Kellogg was day agent of the New England Associated Press at New York city; in the latter month he returned to the Springfield *Republican* office where he remained till May, 1872, when he was employed on the Taunton *Gazette*. He remained there till early in 1873 when he came to Fitchburg and purchased an interest in the Weekly *Sentinel* and the Daily *Sentinel* was started by the Sentinel Printing Company, the first number being issued May, 6, 1873. Mr. Kellogg has been managing editor since.

Mr. Kellogg was clerk of the Common Council from April, 1880 to Jan., 1889; a member of the school board for three years, commencing with 1887, and has been director of the Fidelity Co-operative Bank since its incorporation.

Personally, he is the most genial of men, and the vexations of newspaper work rarely disturb his equanimity. He is by nature a peacemaker, and the onslaughts of the "war editor", the sanguinary thrusts of the Sidewalk Sifter, and the sharp criticisms of the rival correspondent, are often tempered by the editorial pen. Though experts have often pronounced him travelling the broad road that leads to matrimony he still clings to single blessedness and does not seem anxious to forsake it.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

The word corset is obsolete. Stays is the proper thing. Has it come to stay?

One tramp asked of another up on Pleasant street the other morning:

"So you want me to go and ring the door bell while you sit here and rest?"

"Yes," said his weary companion, "you press the button and I'll do the rest."

A western knight of the shears says that barbers are not anxious to see ladies enter the shop to get their hair cut, for no matter how pretty the dear creatures look after having their hair cut, they never look as well as they did before, and their first look in the glass makes the fact apparent to them, and they invariably blame the barber for it.

The fuel gas plant recently put into operation in the town of Framingham is now in good working order, and a large number of takers have been secured. The gas is used for both illuminating and heating purposes and gives excellent satisfaction. Incandescent burners are used for illuminating and the light obtained is brilliant and much liked.

"The Fidelity servant-girl reform association has been recently organized in Philadelphia for the purpose of turning out first class servants." If they succeed in doing it, "turning out first class servants," Philadelphia will soon become a Mecca for weary pilgrims who are living examples of the results of second and third class servants in American households. If there is a personified moral delinquency on this mundane sphere, her name is—and "she's our girl." Nobody but women can correct this evil and we commend the task to the attention of suffering sisters.—[Waltham Chat.

A convenient novelty just introduced which appeals to both sexes, is a silver case for elevated railroad, bridge, ferry and car tickets. This case is of such shape and size that it can be slipped into the vest pocket or may be worn from the watch chain. It is instantaneously opened by a thumb slide, which throws the ticket into the hand. The beauty of this arrangement is that it can be worked without removing the glove or even taking the case from the pocket. Men tell how much profanity it prevents, while women welcome it as an important addition to the list of small articles especially adapted for favors, and my lady is not averse to wearing one of these conveniences as a pendant to her already overladen chatelaine.

If you have money which you wish to invest keep it at home if possible; do not send it away. Fitchburg offers as many opportunities for profitable investment of money as any place in the known world, and a home investment possesses the great merit of being constantly under the eye of the investor: and besides, money invested at home is much more likely to revolve into the wheel of fortune and come back to you when least expected. It is time we were beginning to see ourselves as others see us. Fitchburg has a great future.

So Lent has really begun—the season of fasting and prayer, and Fitchburg, like every one else, must lay aside for a time, her low necked gowns, think of her sins and make up her calls. Lent has always been, ever since any of us can remember, a time for sweeping ourselves together after the strain of the winter season. We prowl about the shops and look dreamily at the fast budding spring goods, take our fans to be repaired, write to our relatives and send them our photographs, and if we are young women, we buy material for a summer gown and tell every one we are going to make it ourselves. It is an innocent self-deception, this, and helps to while away the lukewarm time of Lent.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

JUST RECEIVED!

A large lot of the

McMILLAN PANTS

The best Pant ever made for the money.

A choice line of

—NECKWEAR—

AT 25 AND 50 CTS.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE

Office Toilet Supply Service?

FURNISHED BY THE

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO.

229 MAIN STREET.

CLOSING SALE

—OF—

Overcoats and Ulsters.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SAVE MONEY.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.

WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.

Spring Goods are now coming in, and our Men's, Youths' and Boys' Overcoats and Ulsters

MUST GO!

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

WE KEEP THE

Largest Assortment

—OF—

PURE, FRESH CANDIES

TO BE FOUND IN THE CITY.

E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

AUCTION.

USUAL

AUCTION SALE

—OF—

BANANAS

TO-NIGHT.

—AT—

MACY'S.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

Here is a touching tribute the New York *Herald* pays the head of the street department in that city:

"Cincinnati is complaining loudly of her dirty streets. Gentlemen, we have just the man for you. Shall we send Beattie by express or slow freight? It may wring our hearts to part with him, but for Heaven's sake take him and be happy."

She was talking confidently to her bosom friend. "Now that we are married," she said, "John has stopped drinking entirely. I have not detected the odor of liquor about him since our wedding day." "Was it difficult for him to stop?" inquired the bosom friend. "Oh, no; not at all. He just ate cloves; he says that is a certain cure."

Even Koch's lymph is subjected to a duty of 25 per cent. The "greatest government on earth" cannot permit a poor consumptive to take a dose of medicine without taxing him for it. It is mighty small business that the McKinleyites force the government into.—[Portsmouth Times. If we remember rightly the *Times* does not think the lymph does the poor consumptive any good—rather the other way. To be consistent then, professing to have only the *peoples'* welfare at heart, the *Times* ought to ask for a Chinese wall to be built to keep it out. By the way, how much per consumptive head will the tax amount to anyway?

A woman walked into one of our public schools, the other day, without ceremony, and after gazing about until her eyes rested upon the object of her search, she said in a loud voice, "Peter, where is the key to the shed?" During the past two weeks we have noticed the above item in five different papers. We would recommend the mothers in the five different districts to purchase key chains.

In case of fire being discovered in a house or elsewhere, any one may secure an instant response and the sounding of the fire alarm, by stepping to the telephone and simply calling of the central for "Chief Bixby," no matter about the number. Gentle reader, we hope you will never have occasion to do this, but in case fire does break out, this is the quickest method of sounding the fire alarm bells.—[Newton Journal. Unless there is a better telephone service in Newton than there is in Fitchburg, at times, the quickest method we know of is to run to a fire alarm telegraph box if it is not half a mile away.

A Utica boy thought he would play letter carrier the other day. His mother thought he was very funny, until she discovered that he had found about sixty of her love letters and was distributing them at the neighbors' houses.

More fun, boys. There are two female base ball nines asking for dates. The names of the two nines are the "Belles of the Bat," and the "Fairies of the Field." Some one can make a dollar by getting one of the teams to come here. They start out about April 1.

The managers of the Brockton Agricultural Society fair are already at work and have sent to the press the colt stakes for this year. The premiums for stallions, mares, geldings and fillies in trotting stock have been increased.

The following is the Boston Regalia Company's description of the $75 U. S. flag to be awarded to the fortunate lodge: Flag, best silk, United States regulation; size, 6 by 6 feet, 6 inches; flag trimmed with yellow silk knotted fringe and yellow silk 8 inch cord and tassel, or U. S. regulation blue and white cord and tassel; screw-pointed staff, with either eagle, spear or some other device, with the name of the society painted on the stripes of the flag in gold leaf on both sides; black patent leather belt and oil-cloth cover, complete, ready to carry, value of $75.

LORIN HOSLEY,
BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.
Blank Books Made to Order.
Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.
360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

NOW IS THE TIME
—TO HAVE—
TRIMMING
AND
PRUNING
DONE.
ORDER SLATE AT STORES OF
H. A. HATCH, 204 Main St
H. F. ROCKWELL, 401 Main St.
G. H. CHASE,
8 HAWES ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

The Banner! The Banner! The Banner!

TOWN TALK'S Great Banner Contest.

We want to interest every Society in the city in TOWN TALK and we take the following method of doing it. Many lodges and societies have not a good, suitable banner or flag for use in the Lodge, to use on special occasions or in out-door parades. We therefore offer a

Seventy-five Dollar Banner

made by the Boston Regalia Company. This company is one of the best makers of this class of goods in New England, and will make a banner or flag well worth the money. The contest is open to

Every Society or Order

in this city or Leominster and the banner will be awarded to the Lodge, Order or Society receiving the most votes. In case the Lodge, Order or Society receiving the most votes prefers to have a United States flag, the company will specially prepare one of the same value. Every society, no matter of what organization, is invited to compete for this

BEAUTIFUL BANNER

The coupon will always be found on the last page of the paper. The contest opens to-day and will close Saturday, May 30. The vote will be given every Saturday as it stood at noon the day previous. Votes will be received up to noon, June 3, and the result will be declared Saturday, June 9, 1891. The winning Lodge, Order or Society will have the privilege of giving instructions for the making of the banner, and we guarantee that it will be just as represented.

SAVE YOUR COUPONS FOR

THE BANNER.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

It is rather a heavy joke on Christian missionary effort and example that an energetic Mussulman is actually collecting money in India to organize and establish a Mohammedan mission in Liverpool to convert the people of that country to the true faith. With this country supplied with Chinese joss houses and England invaded with Mohammedans, and their mosques shooting the Moslem minaret in the air, notifying the Christian world that "there is one God and Mohammed is his prophet," the theologians of Europe and America will begin to see that in the language of Sam Patch "some things can be done as well as others." While English young women will go into Turkish harems and American maidens marry Chinese, Indians and Hindoos it is only reasonable to suppose that the Asiatic religions will find here and there some one ready to adopt almost any dogma or observance.

Although the dancing season is done, it is said that the red man keeps up his skirt dance on the skirts of civilization.

Chicago churches, report says, display signs of warning to "Beware of Pickpockets." Most of those who attend the World's Fair will probably have their pockets picked before they get as far as the churches.

Fashionable society is taking a much needed rest now. One young lady on Main street, who is so bright and lively that her company is always much sought after in fashionable circles, when asked a few weeks ago what she was going to give up when Lent came in, said that if Lent didn't come very soon she would give up the ghost.

A story is told of a well-known young man who was recently married. He is one of the very moderate kind, who frequently puts off until tomorrow what he might do today. After a somewhat protracted courtship he finally asked his sweetheart to marry him, and she consented. When he asked if he should name the day, she said: "No, you might put it too far away," and so she named the day herself.

The New York *Sun* says that household expenses have risen nearly 50 per cent. within a month, all on account of a feminine new fad—the mania for saving ten-cent pieces. Wherever the wife goes she asks for dimes. Handing a five-dollar bill to the butcher to pay for a dollar's worth of meat she says: "As many ten-cent pieces as possible please." The *Sun* also says she gets them and banks them. That may be the way with New York wives, but some Fitchburg wives would get away with all the ten-cent pieces they could get hold of, and they wouldn't go into the bank either.

Notice posted by a Deadwood husband in the Post-Office:

"My wife Sarah has Shot my ranche. When I didn't Doo a thing Too hur an' I want it distinetly Unnerstood that any man That takes hur In an' keers for her On my account Will get himself pumped so Full of lead that Sum tenderfoot will locate him for a Mineral clame. A word To the wise is sufficient an' orter work on fools." —[Bostonian.

The following story is good enough to repeat. An elderly lady of the genus "old maid," was one day found silently weeping, on the floor before the stove; on being asked the cause of her trouble, she said, "I was thinking that if I got married and had a baby, and the baby had crawled into the oven and got burned, what a horrible thing it would be."

HERBERT N. RUGG,

CONFECTIONER,

181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,

187 MAIN ST.

EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

SEASON 1890-91.

FIFTH ANNUAL

ANNOUNCEMENT

OF THE

Y. M. C. A.

POPULAR COURSE

—OF—

ENTERTAINMENTS

AT CITY HALL

The Association now presents with a great degree of satisfaction and confidence, the announcement of their Fifth Popular Course. The appreciation of this department of the Y. M. C. A. work by the public, and also by the membership, has been manifested during the past two seasons by the most liberal patronage and support. The committee in charge therefore feel like reciprocating in the matter, and have contracted for some of the very best talent in the field. A perusal of the list will be sufficient proof of the fact.

FRIDAY, MAR. 13.

CONCERT

BY THE

Temple Male Quartette

OF BOSTON,

ASSISTED BY

MISS BERTHA SILSBY, Cornetist,

MISS LUCIA MEAD PRIEST, Reader.

SINGLE TICKETS, - 25 CENTS.
RESERVED SEAT, - 35 CENTS.

Members of the Association can obtain tickets of admission to the course free on application to the General Secretary. Reserved Seats 50 cents extra. COURSE TICKETS are now on sale by members and by the General Secretary at the Y. M. C. A. Rooms; also by Macurda & Sawyer and J. E. Thompson.

☞The committee feel that after presenting such an array of talent, so well known for marked ability, that it is perfectly absurd to urge the public to "Pack the House," "Crowd the House," or "Make it Standing Room Only," for

"EVERYBODY IS GOING THIS YEAR."

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

Robin Hood, the Bostonian's great operatic success, will be produced in London shortly.

Count Tolstoi, of "Krentzer Sonata" fame has written a play entitled, "The Fruits of Science.

Charley Hoyt's next, a satire on the prohibitionists, will be called "A Temperance Town."

Commodore John Stetson claims that he will manage Dixey next year. Adonis will get a good one. At present Dixey manages himself.

W. C. Anderson wires that Two Old Cronies turned hundreds away from Havlin's Theatre, Chicago, at each performance, last Sunday.

Jennie Hill, the most celebrated of English music-hall artists, will appear at Tony Pastor's for the first time in America next Monday.

A number of theatrical companies are to start out about Easter Monday, and, as a result, the Eastern territory is booked almost solid for the Spring months.

Edgar L. Davenport has been the leading juvenile of the Boston Museum company for four years. His engagement will end with this season, when he will be at liberty.

James Owen O'Connor writes that he is studying hard to take a degree in medicine. He is already a licensed clergyman and lawyer. He says that he will take out no more dramatic companies.

An effort is being made to have Nat Goodwin, W. H. Crane, Francis Wilson and Henry Dixey occupy the Broadway theatre, New York, for a week in the summer in a sketch which Sydney Rozenfeld has written to suit them all.

Barney Fagan, who is one of the principals of the new spectacular farce-comedy, "A High Roller," which is to be a feature of next season's theatricals, refused, before signing with Alex. Comstock, an offer of $250 a week from a prominent minstrel manager. Mr. Fagon will be responsible for the spectacular features of "A High Roller," and his productions in minstrelsy are sufficient guarantee of the excellence of what is to come.

The fashionable people of New York have queer freaks. Just now hundreds of them are seen at every performance at Tony Pastor's variety theatre on Fourteenth street. They go to see Maggie Cline, formerly a favorite at the theatre Comique. She recently sang for the benefit of a charity fund at Daly's theatre; the fashionable people heard her, admired her, and ever since scores of their carriages are seen in front of Pastor's theatre each night, while a large portion of the audience, both ladies and gentlemen, are in full dress.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

At the Park theatre "Ship Ahoy" closes its eighth week and still announces that audiences average 10,000 persons a week. Seats may be secured three and four weeks in advance. "Good, isn't it?" Here is the newest verse sung Wednesday evening. It was composed by the press agent of the theatre.

A is for Alderman on a free pass.
Did it ever occur to you?
B is for Bernhardt—no stouter, alas.
Did it ever occur to you?
C's Carmencita, the cadet ballet dance,
D is for Drop Us, or Do you wear pants?
E is for ennui, that's tired in France,
Did that ever occur to you?

After a successful run of eight weeks "The Solicitor" gives way to "Sunlight and Shadow" at the Boston Museum, Monday evening. This is the first time the piece has been produced in Boston after having a most successful run in London. The piece is the work of R. C. Carton and is a very pretty comedy. A one act piece "A Cup of Tea" will serve as a curtain riser. Both plays will be finely cast.

Lydia Thompson and her company in "The Dazzler" close a week's engagement tonight. Next week "The Fair Rebel" is down for one week at the Globe.

At the Hollis street theatre Mr. and Mrs. Kendal close a four week's eminently successful engagement next Saturday. The Hollis street theatre is well patronized every night and these favorite artists are winning new fame for themselves and the theater each week.

At the Boston theatre the Howard Athenaeum Specialty company has reigned supreme. Next week the much talked of "Hustler" is announced. This Hustler is expected here in April, but it is not to be expected that he can hustle to the same advantage that he can on the large stage of this theatre.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Friday evening, Feb. 20, Sol Smith Russell delighted a moderate-sized audience with his presentation of "A Poor Relation." It is surprising that such an excellent performance did not receive better support when many plays that could not hold a candle to it in comparison draw big houses. Public taste is a funny thing sometimes.

Saturday evening Atkinson & Cook's minstrels made a desperate effort to amuse an average audience. There was nothing new or even novel in the performance and the number of artists was limited like a policeman's authority. The performance would make a very creditable variety show and the management would make as much, if not more money, if the bills announced it as such. The audience was both indulgent and enthusiastic.

Apparently our own opera house will remain closed next week for want of suitable attractions. Quite a number of companies have gone to pieces on the road this year which renders it difficult to keep dates filled when booked in advance and no knowing how the companies are going to turn out. The bookings for next month also are few and the most prominent one looming up in the distance is the versatile Lilly Clay and her bevy of beauties.

A small audience witnessed the performance of Paul Kauvar, Thursday evening. The play is full of strong and thrilling situations and could under more favorable circumstances be made really first-class. Thursday evening, however, the storm kept many away and the actors seemed to lose the close interest in their work which they would show with a full house, and a few of the situations were weakly sustained. On the whole the play was very good and was well received.

OPERA HOUSE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10,

Cleveland's Minstrels.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17,

THE BURGLAR.

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

Mrs. J. C Howard will close her juvenile class with a grand ball in city hall on Thursday next, which will surpass all her former parties in this city. Among the many exhibition dances will be the lawn tennis dance in which 25 of her pupils will take part. Several of her Winchendon pupils will also take part in this dance. The 10 exhibition dances by her pupils will last till 11 p. m., after that hour any one may take part in the dances. Brigham's orchestra of eight pieces will furnish music and tickets will go on sale at 3 p. m. Monday, at the stores of Macurda & Sawyer and W. A. Dunn.

"Oh! for a soft and gentle wind,
And a breeze from the southern seas,"

Sings one of the poets, and evidently some of our industries had a longing for the same thing. To satisfy this craving one of our machine shop corporations went south and appears to have got enough of it, as the following from the Anniston, *Hot Blast* of Sunday last shows: "Under, and by virtue of a mortgage for $2,740, executed on Dec. 19, 1890, by the Rollstone Machine Co., of Fitchburg, Mass., we will proceed on Thursday, March 19, 1891, to sell for cash in front of the city court room, in the city of Anniston, Ala., the following property, by said mortgage, to satisfy the same."

It is unfortunate and to be regretted that the bright dreams of sunny Anniston with its marvelous growth cannot keep the boom still growing, but it goes to show that while Fitchburg may be a poor place to die in it's a pretty good place to live in.

Monday, the *Sentinel* got in a little pleasantry at the expense of the correspondent of the *Sunday Herald* and the editor of this paper, by stating that the two persons would hardly be able to maintain peaceful companionship within the narrow confines of the city clerk's office. It certainly would be close quarters for two belligerents, but the public need not look for a sanguinary battle between these two parties at present. Speaking of this office reminds us that some alterations were spoken of in city hall, a while ago. As the saying is, the room now occupied by the city clerk and his assistant is about large enough to whip a cat around, and a larger office ought to be provided for him. Why would it not be a good idea to move the auditor into the mayor's office, move the city clerk's assistant into the office now used by the auditor and cut an opening for a door between the mayor's office and the auditor's office so that the auditor could have the use of the present vault in which to store his books. The present committee-room would make a good office for the mayor and a door would give direct communication with the chief's office. As it is not much used as a committee-room, committee meetings could be held there or in the room used by the city clerk's assistant.

Dr. Pullman, who is to address the union meeting in the Universalist Church, Sunday evening, under the auspices of the Benevolent Union, was connected with the associate charities of New York for many years and is at present president of the Board of Associate Charities in Lynn. He has made a long study of the subject and his talks are immensely practical and interesting.

A large and distinguished audience was present at city hall, Wednesday evening, to see and hear the celebrated American singer, Mary Howe. This was to be expected, and the audience gave both Miss Howe and the company with her a most enthusiastic reception. Of Miss Howe's singing we do not care to say much except that she has a voice of wonderful range and excellent culture. Her high notes are beautifully clear and strong and she shows complete control over them, though to many her singing while it is very scientific, lacks feeling. Miss Howe however has a charming and graceful manner, and will capture audiences everywhere. The tenor Mr. W. H. Lavin of New York, and the Beethoven club, gave some excellent music, and were warmly applauded.

Pepperell indulged in a very merry time Monday, and invited the surrounding towns and cities to share in the rejoicing. Fitchburg did not get the shoe shop as was once rumored would be the case, but we bear no grudge and congratulate Pepperell on the possession of such an enterprising firm. If Leighton Bros. had determined to leave Pepperell, they could not have found a better place than this city, but they decided to remain in Pepperell and our delegation went to wish them good luck and increased prosperity.

The Templar reception, Friday evening last week, was a most successful and brilliant affair and may justly be termed the great Masonic event of the season. There were present many distinguished Masons from out of town and several officers of other fraternal secret societies in this city. The concert was thoroughly enjoyed and consisted of some excellent vocal and instrumental music, rendered in the best and most captivating manner. The supper was served in the armory and seemed to please better than the usual style of sitting down at the table. The gathering was certainly one of the best and most social seen in Masonic hall this season.

It is rumored that an association is being formed and that a paper is in circulation obtaining names for stockholders in the proposed electric railway between this city and Leominster. It is also understood that the capital stock is about $50000. The enterprise will be, if carried out, a good thing for this city and for Leominster, and we hope it will soon be on the way to active operation.

TO-DAY.

Positively the last day of the Great Sale of

Boots, Shoes and Rubbers.

DON'T MISS THIS CHANCE.

ALL GOODS AT COST.

The Empire Shoe Store,

367 MAIN STREET.

YOU CAN FIND
AT THE
SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Very nice Sliced Dried Apples, Canned Apples, Dates, Prunes, Prunelles, Apricots, Mince Meat, and pie stock of all kinds. Shaker Apple Sauce, choice Creamery Butter in 3½, 5, 10 and 20 lbs. packages, Plymouth Rock Gelatine, white and pink, mixed and plain Pickles in bulk, Malt Vinegar for table use, Hukins' Soups, Bottled Goods in large variety, Scotch Green Peas, early cooked and almost equal to fresh picked, Oranges, Lemons, Fresh Eggs, Sweet Potatoes, Pop Corn, &c.

PERLEY HOLMES.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

W. F. Lovering & Co. are preparing to open their store and expect to welcome customers on March 14.

Those who contemplate buying flour will do well to read Joslin's adv. on the last page. It means a saving of fifty cents on a dollar.

John W. Castle of this city is canvassing for orders for a very fine history of Freemasonary published by the Fraternity Publishing company of Boston.

The steamers loaded with bananas are a little late this week on account of the weather, but it will not interfere with Macy's big sale to night.

F. C. Currier & Son are moving into their new office, today, in Dickinson's new block. We hope they will meet with a large and ever increasing business.

Dr. Sheldon from the Sandwich Islands will make another attempt to address the Chapin Club next Monday evening. It is hoped that the weather this time will be more favorable.

Messrs. Dickson & Son of Cambridge will open the store formerly occupied by Taylor the tailor, under the Fitchburg Hotel, in about two weeks with a full line of gent's furnishings.

Joseph Pearce, West Fitchburg, has recently had his house completely renovated and now has one of the prettiest dwellings in his section of the city. His many friends hope he may long enjoy it and so say all of us.

Cleveland's Minstrels are booked at the opera house for Tuesday evening March 10, and "Ship Ahoy" with the same scenery, costumes, cast and orchestra as now performing the piece at the Park theatre Boston will visit here about April 1.

Mr. Nutting, confectioner, under the American house, complains that TOWN TALK readers have completely cleaned him out of 17 cent chocolate candy and he now advertises another brand. We are pleased to hear that our readers are such sweetmeat lovers.

Robert T. Swain, commissioner on the custody and condition of public records of the towns and parishes of the state etc. pays this city quite a compliment in the commissioners last report. Our public documents are said to be in excellent condition.

Postmaster Wallace has appointed Albert H. Harris assistant pastmaster. The step is a good one and is a very deserving position. We have confidence that Mr. Harris will appreciate the importance of his new position and think he will show that he understands its responsibilities.

The recent statement in this paper that the gentlemen holding the Dr. Blood estate for the Y. M. C. A. had received an offer for it that would give them about $6,000 more than they had paid for it, was an error. The item would have been substantially correct had it read $1,000 instead of $6,000 more than was given for it.

"Well," said a Bratteboroite who was in this city, Tuesday, "I see you are going to have *Mamie* here tomorrow." "Who?" queried the Fitchburger. "Mamie Howe, Mary Howe." "Yes, Sir, Mary is going to scoop in the shekels tomorrow. But why do you call her Mamie?" "Oh, every one in Brattleboro calls her Mamie."

Printer's Ink a monthly publication from the house of George P. Rowell & Co., No. 10 Spruce street, New York City, is always filled with useful information for advertisers. In the March number the advertising pages are to be made attractive by the introduction of novel features calculated to illustrate possibilities in the preparation of an advertisement. Every business man should subscribe for *Printer's Ink*. Those who find a difficulty in constructing advertisements and who depend upon the best forms of advertising for trade cannot purchase a better little medium.

We are informed that none of the bids on the new armory varied more than $1500, the contractors therefore must have figured pretty close. As all the bids were higher than the appropriation all were rejoiced and the commissioners are said to have returned them with regret. One gentleman remarked that it was useless to ask Fitchburg for more money and therefore the present plans will have to be abandoned and new ones made. The appearance of the structure will be marred if the fancy turret is left out although its usefulness would not be affected. It is a pity to spoil it now for a few hundred or even one or two thousand dollars.

EUGENE F. STONE,
CARRIAGE PAINTER,
BETWEEN
BROOK AND VINE STS.
Entrance on Vine St.

MISS ANNA C. BURT,
SOLOIST.
TEACHER OF VOCAL MUSIC.
Call or address 14 Payson St. from Tuesday to Saturday of each week.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.
TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.
5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,
TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.
37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Dining Rooms, Etc.

HAYWARD'S TEMPERANCE HOTEL,
337 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.
Meals served on the European Plan when desired.
First-Class Restaurant
JOHN H. PRESCOTT, Prop'r.

HOTEL WESTMORELAND.
25 TO 29 DAY STREET.
Ladies' and Gents' Dining Rooms. Board by the day or week. Good rooms, polite attention and good service. Everything first-class.
F. W. ALDRICH, Prop'r.

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FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
40 DAY STREET.
First-class service and reasonable rates. Board by the day or week.
JOHN HOWARTH, Propr.

DRURY'S DINING ROOMS.
144 MAIN STREET.
BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.
For Ladies and Gentlemen.
First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.
G. E. HAYWARD, Propr.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.
ARTISTIC
FLORAL DESIGN WORK,
A SPECIALTY
F. O. WILLARD,
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GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.
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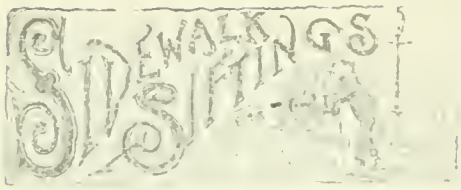
HAIDA LAMP.
GET THE BEST.
NICKEL-PLATED.
CENTRAL DRAFT.
PERFECT WICKING DEVICE.
EIGHTY CANDLE POWER.
—LOW PRICE.—
FOR SALE BY
Atlantic Tea Company,
227 MAIN STREET.



WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That March winds will soon begin to blow.

That many people think we could do with quite a number of new electric lights in various parts of the city.

That Winter ends next Saturday, according to the old way of reckoning. The snow and ice have been continually with us.

That it is about time for spring work to commence. Judging by appearances a spring cleaning will not hurt the streets and railroad park.

That it is quite the rage to have one of Mary Howe's pictures and one of our local dealers has done quite a trade in them this last two weeks.

That clerks amuse themselves in various ways upon stormy days; some sleep; others practise the fancy steps in dancing, while a few pass the time reading. If you want something to read, read TOWN TALK.

That if one is to judge by the large audience present at city hall, Wednesday evening, it is eminently fashionable to go to the Mary Howe concerts. It is a great thing to have a beautiful face and a beautiful voice.

That about all the children could find to talk about last Saturday and Monday was the immortal Washington, and if the boys had been asked what they would like for a present nearly every one would have said a hatchet.

That it is very quiet around town and the flow of the ardent is nearly stopped. Of course there is probably a little to be found in some places, but not much is sold openly and even the most enthusiastic temperance people cannot complain things are so quiet.

That the following funny story is told about one of our dentists and a grocer patient. The grocer some time ago had a tooth pulled and awhile after he thought he would like to have another in its place. He confided to a friend that he was going down to the dentist and have him Hunt up the tooth and would then have it put back in its old place. When asked if he could identify the tooth, if found, he replied he could tell it out of a bushel. If the dentist can find it he must be a diamond(t).

That spring will soon be here, because, 1st, the boys are playing marbles; 2d, the days are lengthening at both ends; 3d, the long-absent pavement is beginning to show itself; 4th, the mark down sales of winter goods are in full swing; 5th, the men are beginning to talk of spring overcoats; 6th, and lastly the women are talking about new bonnets and spring styles.

That some of those who went to the Mary Howe concert, Wednesday evening, were more than gratified to see a few ladies who did not wear their hats. Those who sat behind them did not care whether fashion or a little pride about the owner's hair was the motive in going without because it was far more pleasant to them to sit behind such ladies than it is to sit behind a row of hats gaily decorated with feathers. If the ladies would only generally adopt that fashion what a great improvement it would be.

INFANTS' FOOD!

Large assortment,

Every kind that's made,

AT BOTTOM PRICES.

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST. - 207 MAIN ST.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER

COAL!

LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7.00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5.50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS,

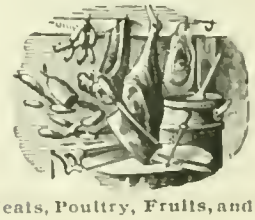
Office, 11 Day Street.

TELEPHONE 218-2.

MEAT, POULTRY,

—AND—

GAME



Choicest Meats, Poultry, Fruits, and Vegetables

—AT—

TAGGART'S MARKET,

405 MAIN STREET.

Full line of dried and smoked meats. Everything of first quality.

Rollstone Creamery,

231 MAIN ST.,

Next door to the City Steam Laundry.

MILK, CREAM, BUTTER

—AND—

CREAMERY SUPPLIES,

Fresh and nice every day.

Give us a call.

I am fully aware that lotteries are against the law and that the promoters thereof are liable to get into trouble, but there are certain lotteries that personally I am disposed to wink at. For instance, one recently carried out in which a gold watch was raffled off for the benefit of the owner, a widow lady who badly needed the money, I would not bother about, because it was in a good cause and those who bought the tickets were friends and did it simply to aid the poor woman. There was also another recently accomplished that I would not "kick" at because it was done so neatly, so innocently, "so child-like and bland." It was so clever, yet it looked like simplicity itself. It happened thuswise. A man working in one of our large factories had an old stove which had done duty for his mother before him. Finding that it was getting worse for wear he hit upon the following happy plan to buy a new one. He had tickets printed for a raffle and sold a sufficient number to pay for a new stove. One man alone sold 50 tickets and in all about $30 was realized on the old stove. 'Cute was'nt it. Give the old stove to the junk dealer—well, I should smile.

I am strongly tempted to use an expression that I have seen you use lately, a quotation from a song now in use at the Park theatre Boston, it is "Did it ever occur to you?" Did it ever occur to you what a farce surprise parties sometimes are, not always but occasionally. I know of cases where surprise parties have been a great *surprise* to the persons visited, but it would have been a *greater* surprise if the party had not come at the time it did. I have in mind a party that came off some time ago which shows that sometimes, at least, the to-be surprised "catch on" before the right time. In one of my flights I had occasion to mix in with a crowd indulging in conversation and when dispersing one man glided up to another and whispered "everything all ready?" "Yes," was the reply, "then we will come tomorrow night." The friend was about to leave the one he had questioned when the man whispered something else and concluded by saying "and invite a *Sentinel* reporter." I did not think much about it until a day or two later I saw an account of a genuine surprise party at so and so's house—the man who whispered—"and invite a *Sentinel* reporter." It might have been coincidence only, but it looked a little suspicious to a raven.

Speaking of surprise parties reminds me of a story told me by another raven. This raven had a friend who received a "truly" genuine surprise from some of his friends who honestly thought they were doing him a great favor. He had a moderately comfortable home and a very pretty wife, but they had no parlor suit though they had a parlor. This, some of their lady friends thought, was not quite the proper thing so they started out to make things proper; the result was a surprise party bearing with them a $100 parlor suit. Before this the couple had never thought much about themselves, that is they had never considered that they were *anybody*, but now, well they found out that they were. After the parlor suit was in position the old carpet seemed to have shrunk, feeling no doubt somewhat out of place under a $100 parlor suit, and being unable to blush it turned pale and even green, perhaps with envy. So the couple cast out this green eyed monster carpet and $40 was expended on a new one. Then the lambrequins and curtains seemed altogether out of place, the pictures did not have that modern cast that Mistress Fashion calls for and the result was that some $20 or $30 more was laid out on the parlor. Then when the friends came again they declared that the furnishings were far to good for such a stuffy old place and they ought to have a good room for such nice things so later the couple had hired so and so's new house and instead of paying $12 a month commenced paying $15. They had the satisfaction, however, of hearing their friends declare that their new quarters looked just too lovely for anything and were just in time to pay a couple of dollars towards getting up a surprise for—who was instrumental in getting up theirs. Oh, I tell you, we are a progressive people.

I want to say a few words about one of our public servants, one whom I think all will agree is a thorough gentleman and one who is eminently fitted to fill the position he now occupies. He came to us about six months ago from the nutmeg state to succeed one who was also much respected and esteemed by all. The gentleman of whom I speak is quiet and unassuming, but he is doing an excellent work in our High School and seems to grow more enthusiastic with each succeeding month. I refer to Mr. Charles S. Chapin, principal of the High School. His energy and untiring devotion to the school and its pupils is remarkable, and the progress of the pupils stamps him as a man of wide experience and great ability. Already the pupils entertain the greatest respect and confidence in and for him and those who have had the good fortune to come in contact with him will agree that Mr. Chapin is the right man in the right place. May he long remain with us.

ROES PAVEN.

DO YOU USE A
RUBBER STAMP?
IF NOT, WHY NOT?
Do you know how much valuable time you can save by the use of a Rubber Stamp?
We can furnish anything in the stamp line that is made and meet any prices of first-class manufacturers.
We warrant all our work
SECRET SOCIETY GOODS,
RIBBON BADGES for all occasions.
STENCILS AND STEEL DIES.
FITCHBURG RUBBER STAMP WORKS,
190 1-2 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

ECONOMY IN FUEL
BY THE USE OF THE
GAS CO'S PREPARED
COKE!
The Gas Company now has
PREPARED COKE ON HAND.
A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.
A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

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INSURANCE,
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FIRE INSURANCE.
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

Come in and See

MY NEW LINE OF

WALL PAPERS,

MOULDINGS,

Window Shades, &c.

Window Shades made and hung to order.

GEO. Z. PAGE

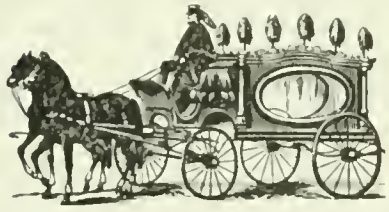
359 MAIN STREET.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.



H. A. LeSure. F. D. LeSure

LeSURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 Day St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

Dinner Sets.

If you are thinking of purchasing a Dinner Set, call and examine the

Kenwood, Dove,
Pencil Hop, Clifton,
Arabic, Venice,
Floral, Tennyson,
Bedford, Foley,
Etc., Etc.

We will sell you Dinner Sets cheaper than you can buy them in Boston.

COLEMAN & DRURY,

138 MAIN STREET.

The following is one of the essays entered for the High School contest and is considered one of the best sent in.

THE ENGLISH SPARROW.

(Passer domesticus.)

The above subject of our sketch cannot fail to be familiar to every one, and a brief description of its most important characteristics will be sufficient for our purpose.

He is a true sparrow, having the short stout body, dull ashy brown plumage, abruptly rounded wings and thick conical bill of this family. The male is distinguishable from the female by a wide black crescent on his breast, and general darker markings throughout; and frequent cases of albinism are found in both sexes; due undoubtedly to their somewhat unnatural environments.

The English sparrow, as his name implies, is an exotic species; introduced into this country for the first time, in the fall of 1850, by Hon. Nicholas Pike and other directors of the Brooklyn Institute, who brought over from England and liberated in Brooklyn, eight pairs.

These however did not thrive and in 1852 another large lot of Sparrows was shipped to the above city, under the directions of the same gentlemen. They were set at liberty in the grounds of Greenwood Cemetery, and from these and a few other lots imported soon after, have sprung the millions of little pests that now overrun our whole country.

The United States Government soon recognized the necessity of securing immediate and thorough knowledge of the habits of this new arrival; and in August 1886 I received from the Department of Agriculture, Division of Economic Ornithology, a circular on the English Sparrow, consisting of 16 questions in regard to its numbers, protections by law, its breeding and food habits, and its disposition and popularity.

Five thousand of these circulars were distributed among the ornithologists and scientific observers, known to the Department, for the purpose of collecting as much original and reliable knowledge as possible, to enable it to accurately estimate its habits and distribution.

Other requests for information were also published in many agricultural and scientific periodicals, in the hope that many persons not otherwise reached, might become interested and be induced to contribute their own experience.

Most satisfactory results were obtained from this systematic method, and nearly 3500 persons answered these circulars, two thirds of whom reported the Sparrows permanently established, and rapidly increasing.

The three successive years following, were occupied, by the Government, in accumulating and filing away these replies and information from all sources; and in 1889 a pamphlet of over 400 pages was issued, containing an immense amount of facts and statistics bearing in every conceivable way on the question: is the English sparrow injurious or beneficial to the United States?

That the Government of the United States should go to the expense of publishing and circulating an exhaustive treatise on this one bird, is, I think, sufficient proof for saying, that the subject is of universal interest and the issue an important one.

Therefore, with the preceding outline of sparrow's early history, and the Government's researches, to which I am indebted for most of my statistics, I will now endeavor to present facts, which, I trust, will convince the reader of the disastrous relations this bird holds to our country; a conclusion most emphatically seconded by the United States Department of Agriculture.

In 1872 the sparrows made their first appearance in Fitchburg. About 15 were accidentally caught by closing the door of an empty grain car, that stood in one of the Boston depots, and they were not noticed, till the door was opened in this city, preparatory for loading. These are the only ones known to have been brought from any other place, and the thousands that now infest our city streets are an undeniable proof of the incredible multiplication of this little foreigner.

The reasons for this amazing increase are quite evident, for it is a hardy, prolific and pugnacious bird, combining considerable intelligence with more than ordinary cunning. Its preference to the proximity to man enables it to escape all the enemies of our native birds and moreover for a number of years the majority of people fed and protected it.

It has been found by actual observation that one pair of birds frequently rear from 20 to 30 young in a single year; but for the sake of computation we will call the number of young 24. Taking this calculation as a basis and conceding that all live, it has been clearly demonstrated that in 10 years the progeny of one pair of birds would be 275,716,983,698.

This number, though possible, is of course, not probable, but however, if we deduct one half for the various agents of death with which the sparrows have to contend, we still have 137 billions of decendents of one pair of birds which will be sufficient to show its amazing fecundity.

Grim Death appears to the sparrow in his own garb; the butcher-bird, screech-owl and sparrow-hawk that catch and eat large numbers, and the blue jay and crow blackbird that devour the eggs and young, are his worst enemies.

But these rapacious bird cannibals do not materially lessen the vast horde that is continually overflowing from the larger cities into the surrounding country, and the appalling rapidity with which this army of birds does actually spread, the following statistics from the Government Reports may perhaps give some idea.

In the year 1886 the English Sparrow was found to occupy 35 states and five territories, and not quite 148,000 square miles in Canada, making in all 1,003,000 square miles populated by these birds; and calculating from the increasing ratio of their yearly advance, it will be safe to say, they must, at present, extend over an area of 75,000,000 square miles.

The above computation is of course partially theoretical, but from statistics and other conclusive evidence we venture to say the foregoing figures are approximately exact.

We now come to the consideration of the sparrow's injurious habits and we must confess it is a formidable array; the department pamphlet contains over 100 pages of itemized columns of this bird's destructiveness, but space will only allow me to mention a few of the more important ones.

The injury buds, blossoms, and foliage receive from the sparrow, is greater than is apparent, the main harm being mostly due to the roosting of large flocks in ornamental vines and trees; but however, the destruction of the buds and blossoms of the pear, apple and peach trees in winter and spring, has been found to materially effect the fruit crop.

But serious as this injury is, it fades into insignificance in comparison with the harm occuring from filth; and it would not be unreasonable to say that in every city inhabited by these birds, a large number of vines and trees are annually injured or destroyed by this cause alone.

The condition of many of our public buildings and churches at present, is ample testimony, and the destruction of the English ivy on the Rollstone church is an excellent example, of the work of this nuisance.

An instance similar to the one above is reported by a sexton of St. John's church in Providence, R. I. in which he says he took 970 eggs and two cart loads of nests from that building, at one time.

The injury grapes, pears, small fruits of all kinds, garden seeds, grains, young vegetables, corn and numberless other agricultural products suffer, is only fully appreciated, after reading the complaints of hundreds of farmers throughout the United States.

But although the foregoing, are serious charges, the greatest cause for enmity toward the English sparrow, is his constant war on our native birds.

The golden robins, vireos, blue birds, swallows and the bright colored little warblers that used to build in trusting confidence in our shade trees and bird boxes, have been attacked, their homes usurped, and finally exhausted by a brave but useless struggle, have retired to the safe and secluded fastnesses of the deep woods.

Prompt and persistent measures, if performed immediately, will rid us of this quarrelling, fighting, chattering mob of bird ragamuffins, whose discordant and defiant chirps and cries seem to mock their timid victims; but only those sure and desisive measures used by the Chicago authorities will check these bird Anarchists and insure the return of those lovely-timid, sweet-voiced little inhabitants of our orchards and lawns, our native bird.

R. E. KIMBALL.

DO YOU KNOW

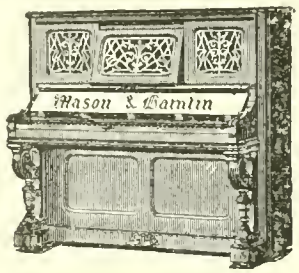
THAT Randel's Central Market is the place to buy your provisions?
THAT his goods are just what he represents them to be?
THAT he carries the largest and best selected stock of Provisions, Poultry, Game and Fruit to be found in the city?
THAT he can and will make better prices for Hotels and Boarding Houses, than any other dealer?
THAT if goods are not as represented they can be returned and money will be refunded?
THAT his prices are as low as the lowest, quality considered?
THAT the "Maple Grove" Sausages are the best ever sold in Fitchburg?

CENTRAL MARKET,
304 Main Street.
GEO. H. RANDEL.

A. E. ROGERS,
366 MAIN STREET,
Watches,
Diamonds,
Jewelry.
SOLID SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE
SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES.
366 Main St., Corner Central St.
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired.

FOR LUMBER
Call at yard of
C. A. PRIEST LUMBER COMPANY,
45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.
If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.



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—THAT AT—
CHAFFIN'S
You cay buy Musical Goods of all descriptions at a less price than any other place in Worcester County,
—including—
PIANOS & ORGANS
From the best makers and on easy terms of payments.
Their facilities for handling goods are unsurpassed, and their *Warerooms* replete with all the latest musical publications and musical goods,
Affable clerks are in attendance, and goods not on hand will be promptly ordered,
Tuning and Repairing by experienced workmen.
WAREROOMS:
157 MAIN STREET. 157
Telephone Connection.

A. R. CHILTON,
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIONS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL ST.

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY BY

WRIGHT & OLDFIELD,

360 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE:

$2.00 per year; Single copies, 5 cents.

Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter

FEBRUARY 28, 1891.

This is supposed to be a most material age and everything savoring of the supernaturnal is almost laughed to scorn or tackled in a cold scientific manner until it is stripped of all its uncannyness or explained away to nothingness. Still, the demand for stories having a touch of the supernatural in them increases, and a publisher of wide experience states that the demand for literature of this class is bringing into market the works of authors good, bad and indifferent. This does not, however, prove that the people of this country are becoming more superstitious or that they are taking more stock in the supernatural, but rather that they are beginning to realize that there are many things that have not yet received the attention they deserve and that the desire to find out how much is true and how much is false reigns supreme.

* * *

Reports are in circulation that one of these so called bond companies has gone under. This will probably hasten the bitter fight which will sooner or later come up in the legislature between the fraternal assessment and co-operative investment associations and those who oppose them. Sooner or later some of them must inevitably fail. The outcome of the struggle will probably be that a law will be enacted which will allow the best and most solid to carry on business, while those of more uncertain tendencies will either have to reconstruct themselves so as to conform with the law or seek fresh fields and pastures new. The success of the Iron Hall and its present solid standing is a refutation of the general denunciation of its plan made several times within the past five years. And the Iron Hall was organized on the same plan as the Knights of Honor and other excellent institutions.

* * *

The plan of abolishing the lower branch of the city council has been meeting with serious thought and discussion in Lowell, just the same as it has in several other cities throughout the state and country. There seems to be a growing desire in quite a number of places to rid themselves of this branch of city government on the ground that the common council has not much authority anyway and is on the whole an almost superfluous body. There is a growing conviction that in many cities this body is more of a hindernce than anything else in the transaction of municipal matters, and that legislation would be more quickly effected were this body done away with and a larger aldermanic board created. It is a step of great importance and one requiring careful thought and consideration before making a change. It is very true that in a number of places the common council is simply a training school for amateur orators and politicians, trained at public expense, and that if only one board, that of the aldermen, had the disposition of all business the proceedings would often be more dignified and business like, but it cannot be assumed that perfection would be reached by making this change. Perhaps a great improvement would be made, but it is doubtful if Lowell or any other city has got a set of men that would be perfectly harmonious and above temptation, and the temptations to become corrupt would become much greater than at present. We have had the same discussions here but nothing has yet grown out of them and the probabilities are that aspirants for the council here and in Lowell will find the ambition gratified for some years to come.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

Do Low Prices Mean Anything?

YOU BET!

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS

JUST GET.

Don't get left on the Bargains. We must close them out to make room for our Spring Goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

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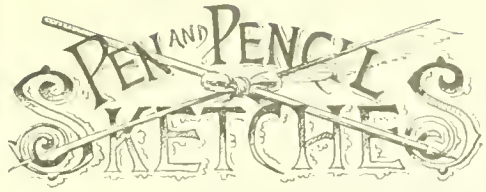

Some of the guesses on last week's sketches were a little wide of the mark although many were right. No. 52 is Lyman Patch. No. 53 is Henry A. Goodrich.

No. 54. This gentleman is known to many of you and his familiar little figure, neat and trim is seen several times daily on our streets, though he is recorded in Price, Lee & Co.'s directory as a clerk. You must have noticed a small man of light complexion, with whiskers and moustache, dressed very neatly and in good taste, yet not dudishly, often times carrying a large pocket book, striding along Main street at a good pace for a man of his size. He is of quiet but very pleasant demeanor and his general appearance seems to mark the character of the man. If you are among his immediate acquaintances you will remember that he is a jolly, social little fellow and fond of company and a good time; if you are not in the circle of his acquaintances next time you pass him just notice the roguish twinkle in his eye and you will be satisfied that he is genial and fond of society. Though he is seemingly such a pleasant easy young man he is something of an hustler and knows the ins and outs of business as well as most men. He must be a man of integrity and ability because he has been in the employ of the company of which he now works about 20 years. If you use a more modern system of lighting than kerosene or candles No. 54 has undoubtedly called upon you at the end of the month or quarter.

About 30 years ago, there came to this place, from the peaceful town of Rindge, a man with a family of several children, among them a son. The family was not rich in this world's goods on account of which, the young man, whom we shall call No. 55, was obliged to make his own way in the world. Fitchburg was a different place in those days, and the openings for a young man in search of work were not so plenty and so varied as they are now. Consequently he was obliged to turn his hand to almost anything that came along in the shape of honest work, whether it was to his taste or not. In the meantime, however, he was establishing a character of the best, and better employment opening to him, till finally his exemplary qualities caused him to be recommended for a responsible position, which he holds today. No. 55 is a man of very accurate and methodical habits, which fit admirably into the exacting duties of his daily life. He handles a considerable amount of other people's money, and if you wanted to lay by a dollar for a rainy day, you could not ask a more careful man to deal with. You would know him by his looks when we say that he is tall, with a slight stoop, and a calm, clear expression of face, adorned by a moustache. Do you recognize No. 55?

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THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER VI.

AN EXCHANGE OF CONFIDENCES.

After Edward Warfield had gone up stairs Saadi rejoined James and her father in the sitting-room.

There was something in Edward's persistence which she admired. In truth, she was herself irritated by the mystery of her own powers. She would gladly have proved them to be wholly an unreal or perverted consciousness rather than believe that there was a real prophetic influence about them.

As has been stated, she was far from being naturally superstitious. She was strongly affected by occult influences—had been so from childhood.

While she was bred in an atmosphere of unbelief approaching the coldest materialism, yet from her earliest remembrance mystic influences seemed to have held possession of her. Her dreams, if not actually coming true, were invariably followed by something approximating to a fulfilment. Family changes were always portended either by an unusual dream or by what she termed an "impression." The latter were usually vague, though so strong that she could not escape from their influence, and the dreams, sometimes of events similar to those about to transpire, were in other cases opposites of the real event.

Despite the constant recurrence of these experiences, which of course made an impression on her mind, she was always ready to reject as a prophecy each new dream or vision when it came. It was as though she dreaded and disliked the power, and yet had prophecy thrust upon her.

When Saadi came into the room James and her father were talking over the strange experience of the afternoon, but the moment she entered they instantly changed the subject, for she was so pale and fatigued in appearance that they dared not keep the matter longer before her mind.

"You will play and sing for us, Saadi?" was the request of James.

"Yes, though if it were not so late I would rather take a brisk walk in the open air."

"It is not too late for that," said James, "but I would like a little of your matchless music first."

"I will play," said Mr. Fenlow, hastily, "and Saadi may sing."

He seated himself at the piano and ran his fingers over the keys, something which he had not once done before since coming to the Warfield homestead. James looked at him in surprise as he recognized the practiced touch, for the instrument responded with chords which had never been evoked from its strings before.

Very softly the music began, like the murmur of a storm; then came sudden, harsh notes like the clangor of alarm bells, then a weird, wild melody that had a suggestion of tears.

The man kept on thus, as if to show how much the instrument could be made to sound like everything else in the world but itself. Then he struck into a more familiar air, which Saadi joined in song.

Saadi's voice was soft and inexpressibly sweet, yet her power certainly did not lie in her song. Her playing was true and practiced, yet neither was she remarkable in that. Her father could evoke more wonders of sound with his most careless touch than could she in her most painstaking efforts.

"It is years since you have played," she exclaimed when Mr. Fenlow ceased and rose from the instrument.

"And it may be years before I play again," he said.

"Why should it? Such music as that should sound where more of the world could hear it," cried James enthusiastically.

The mystical strains still seemed to throb in his ears with a rythmic sound. There was a power in them that did not cease when the strings of the instrument stopped vibrating.

"Now for a breath of fresh air," said James, as Mr. Fenlow settled himself in his accustomed place with a book.

Saadi was soon ready, and as they had done frequently of late, they went out upon the porch and strolled along one of the many paths that cris-crossed the fields.

The stars were shining brightly, otherwise it would have been very dark. Clouds hung along the eastern horizon and a dismal-voiced breeze swept around the gabled buildings and across the smoothly-mown fields.

Reaching a fence a few hundred yards from the house, they paused and leaned against it. From there they could see the house, with its plain architecture and numerous windows. It was common-place enough to look at, yet to the Warfields it

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had acquired an aspect so peculiarly its own that they had always agreed to keep it in the family.

"Lights show from eight windows on this side," said Saadi, who had been idly counting them.

"Which windows are they? Can you make them out?"

She looked more attentively. "The sitting-room three and the hall four, downstairs, and then she glanced to the next story.

"Two windows in your brother's room," she began and then hesitated.

"Where are the others?" she exclaimed, suddenly, for two windows beside had shown light.

"I saw only six in the first place," James declared.

"I am sure there were four in the second story, and—let met see—one was in father's room which you fitted up for him, and the other was there!"

She pointed again. The two windows which she had first seen illuminated were again lighted.

"One is your father's room," declared James, "and the other is mine. The lights flashed up simultaneously in the two rooms. Miss Pond must be attending to some forgotten duty."

"Yes, probably, for they are gone again now."

They thought little of the matter, except as the idlest curiosity prompted, yet they were surprised later when they looked again and saw every window in the upper story of the house brilliantly illumined.

"That is strange. What can Miss Pond be doing?"

"It was James who spoke. His companion shivered.

"You will take cold," he said. "We will go in. I fear you have not gained much by your stroll."

In silence they retraced their steps, pausing upon the porch. They peered in at the same window through which Edward had looked upon his arrival, and saw Mr. Fenlow still seated at the table reading his book.

In the meanwhile Miss Pond and Barker were holding a quite interested conversation in the kitchen. Miss Pond, straight and prim, sat in an old wooden rocker upon one side of the kitchen stove, while Barker was curled up in as small a compass as he was able to compress himself upon the top of the large wood-box. This brought the prim housekeeper and Warfield's sleepy attendant into confidential proximity and enabled her to speak in a somewhat husky whisper.

A lamp burned on the table rather dimly. It had a spell of hissing and humming as even well-behaved lamps will sometimes do. Now and then it would emit a slight pop and for a moment the light would flare more brightly, then it would relapse into its monotonous song again, with accompanying dimness as a luminary.

"I hate to hear a light make that fussin' noise," said Miss Pond at last, and she went over to the table and turned the wick rapidly up and down to put an end to the annoying music. As a result the light went out and Miss Pond exclaimed:

"Good gracious!" and ran hurriedly to the match-box.

In her haste she forgot that Black Tab, the cat, crouched in her path, and the consequence was, she stepped upon the much abused appendage of that domestic species, eliciting a snarling cry that was as horrifying as it was unexpected to Miss Pond and Barker, both of whom were in a highly sensitivized condition of mind.

"Land-a-massy!" cried Miss Pond, coming to a standstill without the courage to stir another step.

"Can't you git a match?" she implored.

"I'll strike one; got 'em in my pocket," declared Barker, and he begun to scratch first the wrong end and then the other on the stove, but he was in such haste that he broke two matches and burned his fingers on the stove before he got one fairly to burning, and he crept over to the table with it and then burned his fingers again with the lamp chimney which had not cooled, dropping it with a crash upon the floor.

"I'll git another lamp—let that one burn 'thout the chimbly till I fetch it," said Miss Pond, and without further accident she succeeded in illuminating the room with a better degree of brightness.

With their spirits somewhat restored, Barker returned to the wood-box and Miss Pond to her rocker, and both fell to whispering again with a world of significance in their caution.

"I've heard tell of such things," whispered Barker, "but I never see anything myself till that girl went into a tantrum this afternoon. D'ye s'pose she really see suthin' that skeered her?"

"I s'pose that them that's possessed can see most anything if they try," returned Miss Pond with a shrug.

Barker began to drum on the wood-box with his fingers. At the same time the lamp which had been freshly lighted struck into the same refrain which the other had been forced to drop.

"I've heard 'em say," Barker resumed, "that there was folks that kept doing things like somebody else instead of like themselves at times, and that they couldn't

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
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help it. I had a cousin that had spells of talking and laughing jest like a man that his father used to know and that had been dead a dozen years. If he wasn't feelin' well he always had a spell of acting like the dead man."

"And I lived in a house once," said Miss Pond, "that had the queerest noises in it sometimes, that nobody could account for. I was a young girl then and I used to cover my head up o' nights and wouldn't dare to open my eyes after the light was put out any more than I'd cut my fingers off."

"I've heard a good many strange noises myself," declared Barker, evidently much relieved to find some one who would not ridicule his own weakness, which he had privately suspected was peculiar to himself and therefore something to be ashamed to own up to.

"And them nights," Miss Pond continued, with another shrug, "I've laid awake till broad daylight, jest acreepin'-like with fear from head to foot. Not that I was any more nervous than most folk, nor so much so as some, but it was an awful house. I heard things myself, and I've felt my bed move under me jest as plain as I ever felt anything in my life. I wouldn't no more go through what I did go through the year I lived with the Wilkinses than I would jump into the Nashua river."

Both again relapsed into an interval of silence, and the tall clock and the lamp had their turn at the ghostly conversation. The former tick-tacked with unusual loudness, so it seemed, for a few moments, and then it became almost inaudible and the lamp struck in with a buzz and a splutter that made shadows on the walls and floor of the long, narrow room dance and quiver as though endowed with life.

"I should think the clock stopped once in a while," Barker observed, when he could endure the silence no longer.

"I noticed it acted queer. It has all day," Miss Pond declared, who was getting herself into a fine condition of mind to make the most of every mysterious element.

"And when the clock ticks loud the lamp stops buzzing, added Barker, as a fresh result of his observation.

"I noticed that, too, and it makes me think of two folks talking to one 'nother same as we be."

Barker leaned forward and began to thrum on the box with his fingers again.

"I had an awful curious feeling about coming here last night," he confessed in a whisper.

"What was it?"

"I don't know hardly. I kinder shrunk from it, and I waited two or three minutes before I dared to knock. I felt jest as if somebody was dead in the house."

"You felt like that?" exclaimed Miss Pond eagerly. "Now that's queer, because I felt all day today jest as if somebody was awful sick in the house and I was expectin' of 'em to die any minute. I woke up in the night once and I felt then as if somebody was dead in the house, and I come pretty nigh gettin' up and knockin' on James' door to see if he was all right. James always says that if I hear anything or git nervous in the night, or anything of that kind, not to lay there and suffer and not say a word, but to git right up and speak to him. He's calm as a clock. If he didn't always have such a calm way I'd go crazy sometimes when I git to thinkin' and worryin'."

"It's queer you had that feeling, and I did, too, when I never was here before in my life," said Barker musingly.

"There is something in these sort of influences of the spirit of one person on the spirit of another, and folks may say what they're min' ter," asserted Miss Pond.

"Of course there's something in it. I always thought there was."

Barker was stretching a point slightly now, for the truth was he had never been over-much given to poudering on the psychical, or to thinking seriously upon any subject not closely connected with his daily wants. But now that his mind had got to running on the subject, and his own and Miss Pond's whispered conference had deepened his impressions so as to make him, for once in his life, fairly wide awake, it really seemed to him that his present experiences were the outcome of long and careful reflection upon the subject.

There was another silent interval in which the lamp and the clock alternately continued their dismal discussion and which Barker was again first to break.

"That Fenlow always live here?" he inquired, lowering his whisper.

"Land, no, though it begins to look as if he'd got to be a fixture now, like the furniture," said Miss Pond.

"That girl is his'n, is she?" Barker pursued.

"Yes, though they're no more alike than black an' white."

"She's han'some, I think, and got a sweet voice and awful pretty eyes. I never see anybody before that I thought was so pretty."

"Beauty of her sort will fade; that I know," asserted Miss Pond, with an emphasis which might have been intended to imply that she had been equally blessed by the gods at an early period of her life, and had found the possession a transient one. Barker so interpreted her remark and drew his fat hand across his lips to wipe out the faint grin of incredulity which might otherwise have been apparent.

"Not everybody ever has it," he said. "And I don't believe her eyes will ever be anything but pretty, or her voice anything but sweet. But, Lordy! I thought she was going to die when she began to take on so. Did you ever see her like that before?"

"Not a circumstance. She goes into them trances, as she calls 'em, and she acts queer enough when she's in 'em, but I never heard her screech and take on so as she did tonight. If *ever* a human being was possessed I veritably believe *she* was."

"What do you mean by 'possessed'?" Baker inquired.

"Why, possessed of the Evil One, of course, to speak plain. That 'o what I always mean when I say a 'body's possessed.' Hope you've heard folks say that afore?"

"I don't know as I ever did. I didn't see anything evil appear about her. She acted as if she was being hurt or scared by somebody."

"But you could see for yourself there wa'n't nobody there a-hurtin' or a-scearin' of her."

"No. I s'pose she had a sort of vision,

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and she was taking on as folks do when they have a nightmare. Anybody 'll dream they're being murdered sometimes, and make the biggest kind of a rumpus. I know a feller that used to have such spells when he was asleep, and anybody would think, if they didn't know what the matter was that somebody was a murdering of him, he'd screech and holler so. Right in the middle of the night, too."

"But *she* wa'n't asleep."

"No, though I don't believe she had the least idea what she was doing. At first I thought she was making the fuss just to make us think there was something awful mysterious about going into a trance, but pretty soon I see she wasn't making the fuss just for show.

Miss Pond lowered her voice to a yet lower key, for her feelings were approaching a stage that made even a whisper seem loud.

"He thought Miss Fenlow was going to die, I guess."

"That wa'n't all that made him so scare't, and you needn't tell me it was. It was because he didn't know what to make out. I can see that your Mr. Warfield is a good deal troubled about something. He was askin' of me about his lamp this morning—the one t hat belongs in his room. What d'ye s'pose he meant by that?"

"What did he say about it?"

"It was more his looks than what he said. He wanted to know if I fetched it down, and all that, and I could see he was sort of cut up about something."

"He isn't a man to be afraid of his shadow, I can tell you that," declared Barker, who really had a great respect for Edward Warfield's physical valiance.

"Nobody said he *was* afraid. But he was nervous and stirred up over suthin', as anybody that had eyes could a' seen for themselves."

"I don't know what there could be about a lamp to stir him up."

"Mabbe it acted like that one."

And Miss Pond pointed at the one on the table, which had struck into such a loud strain of humming and buzzing as actually to interfere with the whispered conversation between the fat youth and the housekeeper.

The former got down from the wood-box and valiantly advanced upon the offending luminary.

"I'll stop it's noise or I'll smash it to flinders!" was his threat.

"Don't put it out, for massy's sake!" cried Miss Pond, as Barker gave it a violent shake, and then turned the wick so high that a black streak flamed across the chimney, and then turned it so low that the room became shrouded in almost absolute gloom.

Having ended this tussle with the refractory luminary, Barker restored the wick to its proper level and was about to return to his station on the wood-box when Miss Pond uttered a new exclamation.

"What on earth ails that cat?" she demanded.

Barker looked. Black Tab, who had been crouching in a corner nursing her injured tail had suddenly risen and gone to the door which was closed between the kitchen and dining room. She was snuffing at the crevice over the threshold, her back arched, her tail bristling, s strange glare in her yellow eyes.

At the same moment a sort of moaning cry sounded through the room, succeeded by a slight yet perceptible jar. In almost the same instant the tall clock ceased to tick and the light on the table went out.

(To be continued.)

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"Good-morning, Mr. Secretary, have you anything of interest today?"

"I've just got back from a day spent with Mr. Holmes, the advertising agent of the Brockton fair, and have got hold of much that interests me, the only question is, would it interest your readers."

"Well, suppose you open up and let me judge?"

"There is no need of my telling, at this late day, where Brockton is or what the Brockton fair consists of. The 65000 people that visited their fair grounds between Oct. 1st and 4th could answer both questions, and many of our own citizens were a part of those thousands. Yet, as we are anxiously looking towards improvements in the Worcester North, a few statistics may be of interest. The Brockton Agricultural Society is an association of gentlemen, without any connection with the State Board. The Society was incorporated 17 years ago, with a nominal capital of $10000. Less than $8000 is represented in certificates of stock. A close corporation, but judging by facts it is run as a public institution and for the public good. During the 16 years, and up to the time of holding their last fair, $73662.22 net profits had been spent in improvements on their 40 acres of grounds, and not a dollar in dividends."

"Their receipts from all sources must be immense?"

"I will give you ticket sales for the last four years and let you judge. For 1887, $11952.73; 1888, $11053.65; 1889, $14684.29: 1890, $17148.44.

"How do the prices of admission compare with our own fair?"

"The first day—speaking of last year—was Children's Day, and children were admitted free. The price of admission on regular fair days was 35 cents; children, half-price; carriages, 25 cents."

"They charge for carriages then?"

"Yes, they reason this way, the carriages take on to the grounds from two to six people, more or less, who occupy the best situations for seeing the sports of the track, and keep just so many people from patronizing the grand stand."

"I see. Now a word about the grand stand?"

"A word! It will take volumes. Do you know I fell in love with that grand stand. It is 540 feet long, with a capacity for seating 5000 people. There are 2000 orchestra chairs, used as reserved seats, beside 70 private boxes holding six people each. In front of the grand stand is an open space 50 feet wide which is enclosed with the grand stand, and admission to this space is 15 cents, and this ticket admits you to a seat in the grand stand, if you get there in season to secure one. In addition, by paying 25 cts. you have the day's privilege of a reserved seat. The private boxes are sold at $5 each. The receipts from the grand stand and inclosure last year were: 1st day, $119.90 (children's day); 2d day, $1295.90; 3d day, $873.05; total $2288.85. Reserved seats and private boxes were over $2500, or total receipts from the grand stand including rents for stalls underneath were over $5000."

"How about ground rents?"

"Ground rents from fakirs, victuallers' booths, etc., over $3000."

"I suppose Brockton gets a great advantage from railroad facilities, being so near Boston?"

"That was one of the things that interested me, and I found that in 1888, 6409 excursion tickets were sold over the Old Colony road; in 1889, 7737; and in 1890, 9727, and they claim the 2000 additional came from the states of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, coming through Boston and attracted there by their interest in the 'colt entries.' So you see that of the 65000 people that visited the fair, less than 10000 came on excursion tickets over the railroad. Their patronage came from their own city and immediate surroundings."

"What other facilities have they at Brockton?"

"They apparently have everything. They have a large exhibition hall, three or four long, double covered cattle sheds, a good building for their poultry exhibit and stables covering 120 box-stalls, beside 40 or 50 of what they call old stalls. So you see they are well equipped to attract exhibitors and to keep them there during the whole fair."

"In the way of attractions what do they offer?"

"They have had balloon ascensions and they have had their experience with balloons that wouldn't ascend for want of gas. Their great feature, costly but a drawing card, has been Madame Marantette, with Woodlawn and her runners, and occasionally Myrtie Peck and her combination as rivals. They first had Mme. Marantette in 1883, again in 1884, 1887 and 1888, and they unhesitatingly recommend her as the greatest attraction that can be secured for any society. They have put up good purses for trotting and manage, between

the heats, to sandwich in some novelty to keep the people interested. They have a special table for children and their exhibition proper is as complete as inducements can make it, $10319 in premiums. Their advertising last year cost them $3000, and, notwithstanding the expense for attractions, premiums and incidentals, they managed to net the sum of $10,581.64. I found myself under obligations to Mr. Geo. N. Holmes, who has been manager of the enterprise since its inception, and to Mr. George Clarence Holmes, who has had charge of the advertising for the last four years. The net profits during his administration have been for 1887, $7947.35; 1888, $5651.22; 1889, $10265.88, 1890, $10581.64."

"So much for Brockton, what have you got to offer for the Worcester North?"

"Well, as Kipling says, 'That's another story.' We are situated a little different here from our friends at Brockton. The park here as there is owned by an association, but the 'Worcester North' and the association are not one and the same. But this fact in itself need not prevent needed improvements at the Park. The Worcester North for the last few years has been obliged to expend from $70 to $150 a year for tents to cover some of their exhibits, and should a pavilion be erected, that on fair days could be used for this purpose, the society would be willing to pay a fair per cent for the use of this, as well as other improvements that might be made."

"The problem seems to be, what shall be done with the Park?"

Some would say, run the grounds as they are now until the lease of the Worcester North expires, six years, and then cut it up into building lots. Others look in this direction for the only play ground we can secure for our people. With this view of the matter, it would seem that the quicker the grounds are put into the best possible shape to earn money the better. The last season can with truth be called a *phenomenally* poor one. Base Ball went entirely to pieces. The Grand Army had the refusal of the grounds for the Fourth of July, until it was too late to secure any drawing attractions, and we lost the best day in the year."

"Well, as secretary or superintendent what would you suggest?"

"My interest in the Park is so small financially that it seems almost like presumption to suggest anything, yet I will say I would like to see a grand stand erected, covered to protect the people from the rain and sunshine. It could be erected high enough so that the space underneath could be used for box stalls for horses. You remember that in August last we had a very successful trotting meeting held by the Fitchburg Trotting association. The premiums offered were large and it was considered a success. As an inducement the grounds were given them at a small rental, and if the track was put into good shape, the association would put up two or three meetings the coming season, and could afford to pay a good rental. So far as the Agricultural society is concerned they seem to be getting into good shape, and if additional facilities are given them, they will become at the end of their lease, the best tenants the Park can have".

"Have you had any talk with the stockholders?" "Yes. It is not to be expected the association would be willing to wait 17 years for a return from their investment as Brockton has, but I am inclined to think that most of the stockholders would be willing to increase their holdings, that necessary improvements can be made. The annual meeting comes soon, and possibly some scheme can be formulated satisfactory to all".

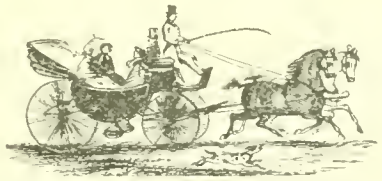
"Do you anticipate a good show next fall"?

"Anticipate! weather permitting we will have a rouser. I propose that we have another balloon ascension and that you and one of the ex-mayors go up in it to peruse those books".

"Well" I replied, "that might be delightful for an ex-mayor but it would not suit."

PAUL PRY.

LIVERY, BOARDING
—AND—
SALE STABLE.



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25 C. PER POUND.
TENNEY'S
CHOCOLATE ✻ CREAM ✻ DROPS,
30 C. PER POUND.
The finest goods offered for the money.
Don't forget to inspect our Home-Made Candies, which are always fresh, and please every time.

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Winter and Shopworn
GOODS
At a Great Reduction.
You can save from 25c. to $1.50 a pair on these goods.

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PRINT WRAPPERS
AT THE
CITY HAIR STORE,
GOING AT
50 CTS. EACH.
Also, Children's Cloaks and Bonnets below cost.
MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER,
183 Main Street. Up Stairs.

Leominster Breezes

THEY SAY

That it cost Proprietor Coleman $50 to settle his liquor case.

That the Sons of Veterans cleared $83.25 by their recent drama.

That the kerosene lamp accident was a narrow escape from something serious.

That all the old folks are more than interested in the coming ball which takes place on the 5th of next month.

That this has been a great winter for sleigh rides and as long as there is any snow left the fun will be continued.

That the minstrel show given by the Barlow Bros. company last Friday evening was a good one and drew a good house.

That the Sir Knights who visited Fitchburg the other evening report a first class time and hope to have another opportunity to repeat the pleasant evening.

That a certain carpenter in town came near losing his bustle in a planing machine at the mill of Tenney & Kenney. Moral take off your bustle when you use a planer.

That in a few days we shall have a full fledged Board of Trade and that all are in hopes that it will be a lively one and full business. If so what a of help it will be to this town.

That all our citizens will miss Dr. Perkins whom we all enjoy seeing and meeting. The doctor was a whole-souled genial man whom everybody liked and whom we all shall miss.

That both buildings that were recently damaged by fire are fast being repaired and will soon be in better shape than before. That John Mather will heat his buildings by steam in the future.

That it cost one driver quite a sum to whip a boy off his team and that he got off remarkably easy considering the manner in which he assaulted the boy. Don't tell the boys they can ride unless you mean what you say.

That the prospect of an electric railroad is first class and it seems to be an assured fact that the road will be built the coming season, at least between the centre and North Leominster. That some of the married men of the latter village are alive to the fact that it would be a great convenience to the residents there and they are willing to put up their money.

That one of the sorrel horses belonging to the town is a terror and at times becomes unmanageable. Is such an animal profitable to keep? Better get a horse that something can be done with or work the present one so that he will behave.

That there are more candidates than usual for the office of selectmen and it is expected that there will be a candidate for about every voter at the caucus. How many of the men mentioned would run for the office if nominated at the caucus is a question.

That the boys who stole the goods after the fire came to the conclusion that it was "better to give than to receive" and so they gave up to the police what they had stolen. It is understood that something will be done in the future to protect property at such a time.

That the Leominster band proved that they have greatly improved in their playing under the direction of Mr. Mauch. Their concert of Tuesday night was a success so far as their music was concerned, but the citizens did not turn out as well as they should if they are truly interested in having a band. The boys are struggling hard to keep the band running and they need all the engagements they can get.

That the Farmers club is at last showing considerable life and bids fair to get up an interest in the club which has not been equalled for many years. At the meeting the other evening it was voted to engage Professor Fuller of the Worcester Technical school to deliver a lecture on "Mechanical Science," also to correspond with Col. Russell with a view to securing him for a lecture on fancy stock. There will also be an entertainment given by members of the club at an early date.

HATS! HATS!

SPRING
SHAPES
NOW
READY.

They are very Neat and Nobby. Call and see them.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

W. M. GRAY'S

COMBINATION SALE OF CANNED GOODS!

1 Can Corn, 1 Can Tomatoes, 1 Can St. Beans, } 25 cents.
1 Can Peas, 1 Can Lima Beans, } 25 cents.
1 Can Squash, 1 Can Pumpkin, } 25 cents.
1 Can Salmon, 1 Can Clams, } 25 cents.
1 Can Blueberries, 1 Can Strawberries, 1 Can Blackberries, } 50 cents.
1 Can Bartlett Pears, 1 Can Pineapple, 1 Can Blueberries, } 50 cents.
California Peaches, California Apricots, California Golden Drop Plums, California Egg Plums, California Damson Plums, } 4 Cans for $1.

ATLANTIC TEA COMPANY.

227 Main St., Fitchburg.

We invite the public to call and inspect our

New Glassware.

We have a new kind—Very Handsome.

Also the best TEA and COFFEE to be found in the city.

LARGE LINE OF

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Are daily receiving novelties in

DRESS GOODS

Suitable for early spring wear.

EXAMINATION SOLICITED.

CIRARD & IRISH,

ONE PRICE

Dry Goods, Cloaks & Millinery,

212 Main St., Fitchburg.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

BOSTON, Feb. 28, 1891.

Has anybody said these are Lenten days? Wouldn't believe it, from the gayety witnessed during the past week. We started in quietly enough however in commemoration of the immortal George. By-the-way, what a nice thing in Gov. Russell, to revive the old custom of "receiving," at the State House. The day was glorious and the steady stream of people, filing through Doric Hall, on their way to greet His Excellency was worth climbing Beacon Hill to witness. The ladies turned out of course, but it must be confessed that the dashing Colonels proved a strong magnet and we don't object to running that sort of a gauntlet on other holidays than G. W's.

Rev. Joseph Cook wants to know if the Sunday newspapers have come to stay. Well, if a paper is good enough to read on Saturday or Monday, why not on Sunday? Of course there are papers and papers.

Those who are familiar with the city seal of the Hub, can no longer consider it a true representation. On approaching the city from the harbor, many of the new buildings completely hide the brass button, and the general outline is far from pleasing to the eye of a true Bostonian.

The New York *World* last Sunday devoted several columns to Sherman stories, but here is one told at the big campfire during Encampment week which never got into print. Gen. Sherman was assailed one day by a native of a captured town in Dixie, who expressed his indignation at the state of affairs, winding up by saying, "You Yanks have taken everything we had, but I'll reckon you can't take our souls away." "Don't know about that," said Sherman, "the Massachusetts boys haven't got along yet."

Our sidewalks in the vicinity of Young's toward Washington street are slowly emerging from concealment. According to the plans to connect the old Court House with City Hall, Court street will soon resume its wonted appearance of upheaval in that direction. When our sidewalks are all open to the public, we will climb out of the gutter and render thanks.

The Matthews vs. Osborne Investigation is progressing with snail-like pace, owing partly to the refusal of certain witnesses to appear and principally because of the pumping process necessary to make those talk who do condescend to show up. The lack of memory on the part of some, yes all of our "finest," who have filled the witness chair is exasperating. Either they "do not know" "disremember" "cannot recall" or "decline to answer." Whatever way it goes at the finish, the people will finally judge. Having been a constant attendant, can "speak by the card."

That was a good story the Washington correspondent of the *Herald* told about Jesse M. Gove's approaching a western senator at the Capitol, the other day, and asking for his signature to city clerk Curtis' post-office seeking petition. "And who are you?" asked the western senator.

"I'm Jesse Gove of Boston, the 'original Blaine man,; I always open the campaign."

"I don't care a d—n if you open oysters!" said the senator, as he went on with his lunch.

Anything green round you? Do you feel ill? We have had an arsenic scare down here and the subject is receiving some attention at the hands of the Committee on Public Health. A hearing was had at the State House but nothing came of it, save an adjournment to March 11.

Such a cackle as greeted me in old Faneuil hall, the other day. Imagine about 400 choice specimens of Brahma fowls. I tell you they were beauties and made a good showing, also noise in the world. This was the first exhibition of the New England Light Brahma Club. At this writing cannot name the prize winners.

Music Hall was a scene of rare beauty all the week, beginning with the Martha Washington Reception on Monday, which opened the bazaar of the Woman's Charity Club. This club was formed about a year ago, for the sole purpose of establishing a free surgical hospital for women. During the year 98 patients have been received, 88 of these were cured and sent to their homes. I hope the Bazaar netted them a handsome sum with which to go on with their good work. The hospital is at 12 Chester square, and a place well worth visiting.

The fashion for ladies of wearing the hair parted has become very general, and bangs are slowly disappearing. What a pity we cannot all show our classic (?) brows and follow said fashion! There are very few however who can look as charming as Mrs. Kendal. If one happens to have a forehead resembling a bald-headed eagle, if one's hair will beat a precipitate retreat from one's eyebrows, how can we be in style? I, for one, say in that case, bangs and plenty of 'em.

MARION HOWARD.

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WE HAVE

ALL THE NEW IDEAS

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SPRING HATS

REPRESENTED IN ALL GRADES FROM

$1.19

—TO—

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—WE CAN—

SAVE YOU MONEY

On every hat purchase, as we buy direct from manufacturers in case lots.

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The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

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FITCHBURG, MASS.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

A Masonic fair lately closed at Baltimore, realized $65,000.

The Fraternal Circle has now between 15,000 and 16,000 members.

Officers of Aurora lodge are reminded of a rehearsal this evening. The lodge will work the E. A. degree on Monday evening.

The Springfield, Mass. Masons have unanimously voted to erect an elegant temple, and articles of incorporation will speedily be asked.

The plans for the new Masonic temple in Dover are to be furnished by Hartwell & Richardson of Boston, who will have the same ready in the spring.

At the annual meeting of the Order of Ægis held recently at Lynn, it was stated that the order had gained 56 lodges and 5600 members during the past year.

Another new endowment order has appeared, called the United States League, which promises to pay $100 in nine months. Its headquarters are in Boston.

The Iron Hall will have only one assessment for March, this making only one assessment for five months in succession and all claims paid. That is an excellent showing and speaks well for the Order.

Secret society matters in this city may be regarded as quiet, although all the principal lodges are doing some work in the degree line. The Masons, Odd Fellows, Red Men, etc., are receiving applications and conferring degrees at every meeting.

A Pythian temple is to be built at Chicago to cost $200,000. It will contain a theatre, lodge room, a drill hall and other necessary apartments. The theatre is to accomodate 1400 people. A stock company has been formed to carry out the enterprise.

The Portsmouth *Times* justly observed: When our fathers were boys there existed no means whereby the head of a family could make provision for wife and children, in the event of his demise, except by thrift in saving part of his earnings. This was a slow, laborious and uncertain proceeding. Often the death of the most frugal man left his family in a destitute condition.

All this is now changed. The man who earns but a dollar per day by laying aside one-tenth of that sum can not only make sure of a life insurance indemnity of two thousand dollars, but can also secure the promise of aid and support in time of sickness. With this the case, is it not wonderful that any man, who is healthy enough, does not at once attend to the matter, not only for his own sake, but for the benefit of those who are dependent on him?

ODD FELLOWS.

The new Haven brethren are to erect a temple costing $20,000.

There are over 40,000 Odd Fellows in Massachusetts, and the financial standing of nearly all the orders is most gratifying.

The Nashua Odd Fellows Building Association has been incorporated with a capital of $75,000. two-thirds of which has already been subscribed.

The report of the grand secretary at the semi-annual session of the Massachusetts grand lodge last week showed the following: Total number of subordinate lodges in the jurisdiction, 204, and total membership, 40,438; the increase of the term being 398. The total amount paid for relief during six months was $78,189; total receipts, $168,773. Six degree lodges of the Daughters of Rebekah have been instituted since the annual session. The total membership of this branch of the order is 14,180.

ORDER OF THE WORLD.

The Boston Daily *Traveller* of the 12th inst. speaks in very complimentary terms of the Order of the World as will be seen by the following extract. "Under such management, and run purely on business principles, it is scarcely surprising that the Order of the World has a phenomenal success. Its report shows that at the close of the first year it had 4003 certificates in force, a greater number than were issued in the first year by any other order whose policies mature in seven years. The amount of insurance issued during this period was $5,113,000. The order collected in assessments for the payment of claims $30,860, and has paid 321 claims amounting to $20,814.96, leaving a balance on hand to meet future liabilities of $10,045.04. Every one of these claims has been paid promptly. And who will gainsay that such help in the time of sickness has brought comfort to the sufferers and a piece of mind which has encouraged recovery."

The lodge here has just received a dispensation from the supreme lodge, granting permission to keep its charter open for a few weeks longer, there by enabling all to become members at the same cost as those who first joined.

THE
GOLDEN GRAIL.
THE POOR MAN'S INSURANCE.
$100 IN SIX MONTHS.
$100 OR $200 IN ONE YEAR.
$300 IN TWO YEARS,
OR AT DEATH.
No Medical Examination Required.
The Order of the Golden Grail is beyond its experimental stage. It has become a *pronounced certainty*.
Assessments, $2 and $4. Three new classes of endowment. For full particulars, inquire of
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PLUMBING
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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.
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SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

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THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

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With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

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THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.
THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE to St. Albans, St. Johns, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.

ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, †3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at †7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, †8.10 and 11.30 a. m., †2.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at †4.50 p. m.

†Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
I. N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a.m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.15, prayer meeting in the chapel; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor; 11.50 a. m., Bible School; 4 p. m., Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, service of worship with short sermon by the pastor. All are cordially welcome.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Every Thing in its Season," followed by baptism; at 12 m., Sunday School lesson, "The Shunamite's Son;" 6.30 p. m., Missionary Concert. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a.m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, Sunday School at 12 m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 6 p.m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by pastor; Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's meeting at 6 p. m.; at 7.30 p. m. there will be a union service in this church, in which the other churches of the city will join, under the auspices of the Benevolent Union; Rev. James M. Pullman, D.D. of Lynn, will speak upon "Charity under Modern Lights." All are welcome.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m.; subject, "The First Advent;" evening service at 7 p. m.; subject, "Future Punishment." Preaching by Rev. R. C. Brown, of New Britain, Conn. All are cordially invited.

Rollstone Church (Congregational,) corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor; Sunday School 12 m.; People's service, 7 p. m., sermon by the pastor. Public cordially invited

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

Do Low Prices Mean Anything?

YOU BET!

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS

JUST GET.

Don't get left on the Bargains. We must close them out to make room for our Spring Goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

SQUARE DEALING, ONE PRICE

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

School committee meets, 7.30 p. m.

TUESDAY.

City Government meets, 7.30 p. m.

THURSDAY.

Mrs. Howard's juvenile ball at city hall.
Spiritualists' dance at G. A. R. hall.

FRIDAY.

Universalist Sunday School's children's party at city hall.

LENT HAS COME!

PLENTY ∴ OF ∴ FISH

—AT—

The Public Markets.

No. 1. No. 2.
177 MAIN ST. 374

L. A. COUSINS.

NOT FOR FUN

But for reasons best known to ourselves, we make the following offer for one week on these conditions:—The Flour must be taken from the store C. O. D. If delivered anywhere in the city we shall charge 15c. per barrel.

Cut This Out.

Present this at the O. L. P. G. and you will be allowed

Fifty Cents

Rebate from the regular price on a barrel of Flour.

J. A. JOSLIN, 16 & 20 DAY ST.

Cut This Out.

Present this at the O. L. P. G. and you will be allowed

Fifty Cents

Rebate from the regular price on a barrel of Flour.

J. A. JOSLIN, 16 & 20 DAY ST.

TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

A PARLOR SUIT

OF SIX PIECES, Custom Work, and Made by

FERDINAND & AUSTIN.

DO YOU WANT IT? HOW TO GET IT.

Do your trading with the following representative firms. Every 25-cent purchase entitles you to one card. Be sure and ask for it when the purchase is made. At the expiration of three months (April 25, 1891,) the person holding the greatest number of cards will receive the PARLOR SUIT FREE OF CHARGE. Remember the cards are obtained only at the following stores.

Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St.
A. L. Williams & Co., Grocers, 153 & 155 Main St.
H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St.
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St.
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block.
L. A. Cousins, Public Market 177 & 374 Main St.
E. E. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St.
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St.
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St.
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. V. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 10.

FITCHBURG, MASS., MARCH 8, 1891.

$2.00 PER YEAR.
5 CENTS A COPY.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

HOUSE FURNISHING EMPORIUM,

222 MAIN ST.

Improvements in our Store.

Improvements in our Stock.

More goods. Better goods.

More capital. Better facilities.

Farther in the lead than ever.

All House-Furnishing Goods at prices that defy competition.

A great trade in a Chamber Set, made to sell for $28.00, slightly imperfect, and offered for $23.00.

Carpets at the same old prices, and a big stock to select from.

New Baby Carriages just in, and they are beauties.

Look over our Store, get our prices and make your own terms, by our special system of credit.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

EDWIN R. LOCKE, CHIEF OF POLICE.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

This week's subject is our new Chief of Police, but in presenting his picture to our readers we do not do so thinking they need to know him in order to keep out of his way, because we are satisfied that all the readers of TOWN TALK are law abiding citizens. As the chief is a new comer and a man upon whose head rests considerable authority and responsibility we take pleasure in giving him all the publicity we can. Mr. Locke is a native of Stoddard, N. H. and was born in 1832, his early life was spent on the farm, his education was received in the public school and Marston Academy. At the age of 18 he was a successful school teacher. In 1855 he entered the large wholesale millinery house of Wetherell Bros., 14 Milk St., Boston, where he remained until the spring of 1861, when he moved to Keene, N. H., opened a dry goods store and was one of the most successful and prominent dry goods merchants there for many years. He was one of the selectmen, also Chief of Police for several years before Keene became a city, and held various other offices of trust. He has also held the office of United States Gauger for several years. He was City Marshal nine years and held that office at the time of his appointment as Chief of Police here. He has long since obtained the reputation of being a fearless, able and faithful officer both at home and abroad, and this record had something to do with his selection by Mayor Graves. His departure from Keene was much regretted and the Keene papers were one in acknowledging that his place would be hard to fill. Since coming here he has shown that he is equal to the task he has assumed and our citizens will find that he is able to deal with all offenders we are likely to encounter in Fitchburg. While he is a man who believes in the strict enforcement of all laws tending to the public good, he is also one who believes in moderation and entertains liberal ideas. He, unlike most men in these days, does not belong to a solitary secret society.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

Who says that the fire insurance companies do not make money? Last year the fire companies of Connecticut realized a net profit of $11,283,000; more than double the profits of the year previous.—[Holyoke Transcript. You should also add brother *Transcript* "and afforded all insurers protection in case of a great fire calamity."

The old house at the North End, Boston, where Paul Revere was born is to be torn down, and a brick building will take its place. The house has recently changed hands and as the present owner cares more for business than sentiment he has decided on this course. For many years the owner has kept it in a good state of repair, but unfortunately it has changed hands and now modern enterprise and the love of money calls for a modern structure and the historic old place must give way.

One of our exchanges truly remarks; When the average man has given the minister who has married him a $10 note he thinks he has done pretty well by the parson. Down in Newman, Ga., however, is a man who was married 10 years ago and who still feels so good over it that he still sends the officiating minister a $10 bill each anniversary. No failure in that marriage. Not for the parson anyway. We have not heard of any Fitchburg minister being similarly rewarded, but if there is one receiving a similar gift we should be most happy to hear of the facts and give the particulars.

Secretaries and other members of societies, clubs and organizations, social or otherwise, are invited to send to TOWN TALK announcements of balls, parties receptions and entertainments which they may give from time to time. The paper aims to be the reflex of the city's social and society circles, and in order to more fully cover the field the co-operation of all friends of the paper is asked. While newspaper men are almost omnipresent, there are many happenings in a city such as ours which would never be chronicled but for the intelligent aid offered by those in possession of the facts. These remarks should be pinned in the hat of every reader and the suggestions followed. Anything of an appropriate character sent to this office will be received with thanks, written up in style and published with pleasure.

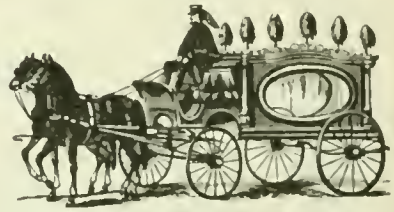
Rev. P. H. Gallon of the Florence Catholic church, recently publicly denounced the whole system of Catholic fairs, before his congregation. He opposed them on the ground that they were promotive of gambling practises, were illegal, immoral and bad. This unexpected attack created a decided sensation and it is expected that it may do some good as Catholic fairs have long been a public detriment in that city. They have taken thousands of dollars away from people least able to support them and the result has been that merchants and business in general have been the real sufferers. Rev. Mr. Gallon has hit a valuable point for public discussion.

Horace A. Collins of Smiths Ferry, Mass., is a lucky man this year. He raised a crop of 1,000 bushels of potatoes last year and kept them until the price got way up. Now he is selling them and gets $1.20 a bushel. He finds his best market in Holyoke. This is the highest price that he ever got, except in war times, when he sold some at $1.50 a bushel. His present crop is of splendid quality. Think of it—$1,200 for a single farm crop. Such facts as this ought to open the eyes of some of our farmers who are mourning over the hard times and the "depression of agriculture." No depression in agriculture for farmer Collins. It's always good times for him.—[Ex

THE
GOLDEN GRAIL.
THE POOR MAN'S INSURANCE.
$100 IN SIX MONTHS.
$100 OR $200 IN ONE YEAR.
$300 IN TWO YEARS,
OR AT DEATH.
No Medical Examination Required.
The Order of the Golden Grail is beyond its experimental stage. It has become a *pronounced certainty*.
Assessments, $2 and $4. Three new classes of endowment. For full particulars, inquire of
F. I. BILLINGS, 9 Pleasant St.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE
Office Toilet Supply Service?
FURNISHED BY THE
CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO.
229 MAIN STREET.

CLOSING SALE
—OF—
Overcoats and Ulsters.
NOW IS THE TIME TO SAVE MONEY.
H. A. Goodrich & Co.
WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.
Spring Goods are now coming in, and our Men's, Youths' and Boys' Overcoats and Ulsters
MUST GO!
H. A. Goodrich & Co.,
Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.



H. A. LESURE. F. D. LESURE.
LESURE BROS.,
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
AND EMBALMERS,
46 DAY ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.
Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

A. H. BURGESS,
Druggist
AND APOTHECARY
248½ MAIN STREET,
FITCHBURG, - - - - MASS.
COR. OLIVER ST.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

A Londoner won $33,000 at Monte Carlo recently and temporarily broke the bank. It will be a big advertisement for Monte Carlo, however, for hundreds of others will now go there trying to duplicate the Londoner's luck and will probably come to the conclusion that luck runs in streaks the bad streaks being most prominent.

The Salvation Army of Atchison has captured and converted a Chinaman who has turned from his laundry to the profession of "Captain of the Salvation Army." John has a faro outfit which he offers to sell cheap or dicker off for a bass drum or any other paraphernalia suitable for a "Captain." A blood red Jersey would be thankfully accepted.

Most of us are familiar with the saying take care of the cents and the dollors will take care of themselves. The following is a powerful illustration. A Methodist church in Reading, Pa, has cleared off a debt of $800 by the aid of a penny subscription. The scheme met with such immediate favor that in a brief period of time 80,000 were collected, the debt paid and nobody felt it any more than if they had droped a penny in the slot of a weighing machine.

A Kansas youth who had heard of the horrible punishment practiced in former times, by dropping water on the head in single drops was inclined to jeer at it, but found it a terrible reality when he accepted a wager that he could not stand a quart of water dropped into his open hand drop by drop from a height of three feet. Before 500 drops had fallen into his hand he almost cried with pain and said he had enough. After a little water had fallen each drop seemed to crush his hand, and a blister in the centre of it was the result.

A new way of making raids on liquor saloons has been instituted at Lynn. Last Saturday night burglers entered Henry Murphy's saloon and carried off everything of value except the bar and tables and probably would have carried off those had they not been screwed to the floor. Every bottle of liquor was taken from the shelves, jugs drained, barrels tapped and cigar boxes emtied. Even the pumps and syrups were confiscated by the robbers. How all the articles were taken away and where carried is a mystery. It will take something like $2,000 to replace the stuff stolen. A temperance vengence seeker could not have cleaned out the saloon any better. This is a much more effective way of doing business than is sometimes done by the police force. Marshall Hill of Lynn ought to take a lesson or two from these chaps if he catches them.

Miss Diss Debar, has secured an injunction against a theatrical manager, who flooded New York with pictures of the madame in tights.

Is not some one making an unnecessary scare about the poisonous qualities of house paper. Paper of the same color and manufacture is used in a variety of ways and has been used extensively for years, but no one appears to have been poisoned by it. Thousands upon thousands of greeen labels are used daily but no one objects. Most of the noise about arsenic wall papers is all bosh.

The great storm of the season arrived this week and made a very imposing appearance. Humanity was almost buried and it was fully a day before he completly emerged from his place of concealment. Somehow the weather prophets do not appear to be able to hit the storms just right; so far as we remember not one of them foretold the advent of the last storm accurately and that it would be accompanied by thunder and lightening, but it came alle samee. Those who promised us a third mild winter on account of the changing of the gulf stream course will do well to advance a new theory.

The Boston *Traveller* of Monday last devoted nearly a whole page to the opera and company of "Ship Ahoy" and its phenominal success. One good feature about it was the article was not overdone in any particular, but was a just tribute to real merit. The management must feel highly complimented that such a reliable and solid journal as the *Traveller* will give up so much valuable space to this attraction.

Rollstone Creamery,

231 MAIN ST.,

Next door to the City Steam Laundry.

MILK, CREAM, BUTTER

—AND—

CREAMERY SUPPLIES,

Fresh and nice every day.

☞ Give us a call.

Chamberlain,

Huntress & Co.

N N
E E
W
CARPETS
I
N N
ALL DESIGNS

SPRING OPENING

PRICES LOW

Selection cannot be surpassed

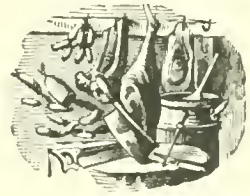
Call and examine

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

MEAT, POULTRY,

—AND—

GAME



Choicest Meats, Poultry, Fruits, and Vegetables

—AT—

TAGGART'S MARKET,

405 MAIN STREET.

Full line of dried and smoked meats.
Everything of first quality.

LOOK AT THE
PRINT WRAPPERS
AT THE
CITY HAIR STORE,
GOING AT
50 CTS. EACH.

Also, Children's Cloaks and Bonnets below cost.

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER,

183 Main Street. Up Stairs.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

In some languages, notably the Japanese, there is no word for kiss. They do not need a word. They simply kiss and let it go at that and the young Japs of both sexes seem to get along very well without any word. We have seen cases ourselves where words were unnecessary.

Fitchburgers who make the Isles of Shoals their summer quarters will be interested in the following item from the Portsmouth *Times*. "The Laighton Bros., of the Appledore House, Isles of Shoals, have cut and housed about 450 tons of prime ice for use next summer."

Mrs. Cleveland proposes to add violin playing to her other charms and accomplishments. It will now be in order for some intensely partisan editor to insinuate that the Democrats will dance to the music, and those who dance must pay the fiddler—viz, elect "Grover" in 1892. Selah.

George Washington was the father of his country and we celebrate his birthday. Jay Gould is the owner of his country and we do not even know the date of his birth. —[Washington Post. No, we have a different kind of admiration for J and it is that kind that does not call for any special day to show it.

A soldier stationed at Rose Bud Agency, S. D., recently tried to buy from Red Nose, a Sioux warrior, a pair of moccasins for $1.50. Old Red Nose refused to sell at that price, saying: "Two dollah; McKinley bill. Moccasins go up." And yet we are constantly being told that the poor Indian cannot be civilized.

The waving of the bloody shirt is not the exclusive weakness of the North, occasionally it is flaunted in the South. The manner of doing it may vary a little, but it is done and bitterly sometimes. The Charleston, S. C., *News and Courier* made a bitter and rather cowardly attack on the late General Sherman almost before his body was cold, by denouncing him as "Marie" and comparing him to the barbarian who ravaged the fair fields of Italy and laid waste imperial Rome. Other papers are wrangling over his religious belief. The people are beginning to tire of it. What does it matter to the *people* what he did and did not believe. He fought for the right. Let that suffice.

Last week, Judge Sherman of Gloucester told a jury that if an innholder sold liquor to a guest who had come to him on Sunday primarily for rum, and only permitted food to be bought and remain untouched simply to evade the law, he violated his license.

The little advertisements in this paper are read by thousands of people each week —those who do the house hiring, the buying and need the various things that others have to sell. The cost is but a trifle and the audience to which one speaks could not be gathered into any hall or church of Fitchburg at one time. An advertisement often works while the advertiser is asleep and his place of business is shut.

Here is a specimen of English as she is spelt by a 12 year old school girl. "A right suite little buoy, the son of a great kernal, with a rough around his neck, flue up the rode as quick as a dear. After a thyme he stopped at a gun house and wrung the belle. His tow hurt hymn and he kneed wrest. He was two tired to raze his fare, pail face. A feint mown of pane rose from his lips. The made who head the bell was about to pair a pare, but she through it down and ran with all her mite, for fear her guessed would not weight. But when she saw the little won tiers stood in her ayes at the site. 'Ewe poor dear! Why dew yov lye hear! Are yew dyeing?' 'Know,' he said, 'I am feint.' She boar him inn her arms, as she aught, to a room where he mite be quiet, gave him bred and meet, held a cent bottle under his knows, untide his choler, rapped him up warmly, gave him a suite drachm from a viol, till at last he went fourth as hail as a young hoarse."—[Brunswick (Ga.) Times.

A. E. ROGERS,

366 Main Street,

Watches,
Diamonds,
Jewelry.

SOLID SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE

SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES.

366 Main St., Corner Central St.

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired

HATS! HATS!

SPRING
SHAPES
NOW
READY.

They are very Neat and Nobby. Call and see them.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

COAL LACKAWANNA. CHESTNUT.
$7 PER TON.
HARD. SOFT. WOOD

8 Baskets Best Hard Wood, $1.00
10 " Mixed " " 1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord, 5.50
Soft Wood, " 3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord, . . . 4.50
Splints, per bunch, . . .05

100 cords dry wood in our sheds ready for delivery. All orders by mail or otherwise promptly delivered.

F. H. ARNOLD,
16 HARWOOD PLACE.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,
NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER

LORIN HOSLEY,
BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.
Blank Books Made to Order.
Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.
360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

E. C. STOWE,

DEALER IN

LEAD, JAPANS,
OIL,
SHELLACS, PAINTS,
VARNISHES.

HOUSE PAINTING, HARD OIL FINISH, GRAINING, VARNISHING, ETC.

302 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MASS.

Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,
187 MAIN ST.
EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

HERBERT N. RUGG,

CONFECTIONER,

181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

A. R. CHILTON,

FIRST-CLASS

PROVISIONS.

TELEPHONE 22-3.

7 LAUREL ST.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

During the past two or three years the words "experts are now at work on the books" have become so common that "hackneyed" and "stereotyped" fail to express anything like the contempt felt when one reads the phrase. It is an old saying "familiarity breeds contempt" and we are becoming very familiar with "experts are now at work etc."

Many of our readers will appreciate the following piece of humor from an exchange. "When you see a stranger who looks as if he yearned to clasp you to his bosom, don't linger, but run for cover before he can get to his hip pocket and draw his prospectus. He is the agent of the latest endowment company, and has more figures to the square inch than a statistical almanac."

A man in Hannibal, Mo., commits suicide after the model of the modern French duel. He fires his pistol in the air, falls down, lies motionless till his suicidal intent ebbs away, and then gets up and goes about his business. That is a very easy method of satisfying one's wounded honor and one which we can cheerfully recommend to our readers who are going around looking for victims.

The average young man has many peculiarities about him, one of which at least is worthy of notice. Let a cast off sweetheart, whom he had no earthly reason for deserting save from innate fickleness, inform him that she is to be married and he will flush up, put on an injured expression and barely manage to stammer out that he "hopes she will be happy," when he knows he does not—a sort of dog-in-the-manger feeling and mean-spirited.

The Holyoke *Transcript* says: It is said that at a certain creditors' meeting held recently the debtor appeared before them and in a dramatic manner said, "Gentlemen, I have nothing left in the world but my body, you can have that." A hush fell on the assembly for a few moments which was broken by the largest creditor, who arose and said, "If we accept the assets offered, and they are divided among us, I want the gall." Some people are never satisfied with a reasonable proportion. We have before now heard of men who want the earth or its equivalent. He appears to reside in Holyoke, too.

The home of poet Whittier, Amesbury, Mass., is the acknowledged carriage centre of the world. During the past decade the population has increased from three to ten thousand inhabitants, which represents the growth of this great industry. Under the auspices of the Board of Trade, the forty-four manufacturers announce the annual Spring opening, March 25 and 26. Unusual preparations are being made, and the variety of styles, unique designs, for either inspection or purchase, will excel any past effort of the Board of Trade and their carriage manufacturers.

After the licenses ran out last Spring, the 2d W. C. T. U. undertook a thoroughly practical scheme and went down to Washington Square, locating there a restaurant in the most conspicuous situation in that famous locality. Where alcoholic drinks had been dispensed, they set out to furnish food and such accompanying drink as might be necessary. The result has been highly satisfactory. Not a row has been had in the place. The police have had a rest and the record is excellent. Now, with the return of license, they must move and they will go to Marshall's old place, just west of the Viaduct. May success attend their good works.—[Worcester Light.

Do Low Prices Mean Anything?

YOU BET!

OVERCOATS AND ULSTERS

JUST GET.

Don't get left on the Bargains. We must close them out to make room for our Spring Goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

SQUARE DEALING, ONE PRICE

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

We understand that the Plymouth Rock Pants Company has practically beaten the city in the case which was tried here and appealed. Perhaps it is to be regretted, perhaps not. We hope the law will be altered so that such cases will be fully covered. The merchants who brave the ebbs and flows of trade year in and year out who pay rent and taxes to make the city what it is are deserving of every protection that can be thrown around them, and we are pleased to know that the mayor and chief of police propose to give them all the protection they possibly can. Until such times as the law is amended there is another remedy. Let the owners of vacant stores positively refuse to accept these men as tenants, or, if accepted, charge them for a month's rent as much as a permanent tenant would pay for a year. If the people are to be gulled out of their money, at least let some one here share it. If all the papers would agree not to advertise them, print bills for them or to recognize them at all their course would not be so easy although it would not effectually check it. If the property owners would only add their co-operation the evil could easily be checked. We stand ready to enter into an agreement with our contemporaries to refuse to accept advertisements from out of town parties which will conflict with any business here. The merchants of this city have a right to expect this in a measure, and we propose to recognize that right in every reasonable form.

There is another class of trade pirates that ought to be wiped out and that is a certain class of peddlers. We do not condemn all peddlers, but that class who carry on trade which injures the buyer and the retail store keepers. They are mostly engaged in the jewellery, dry goods and similar lines, and work in a very unscrupulous manner. Having no settled place they stay a few weeks or a few months in first one town and then another and sell goods on instalments at fabulous prices to all who appear willing to buy if there is any reasonable show of getting one half of the price asked. Jewellery of doubtful value, watches at prices three times their worth, rugs, shawls, etc, etc., are sold to anybody, and in order to make sure of being paid enough should the customer prove unreliable the price is advanced accordingly. By this means these frauds make a good living and do nothing whatever toward the burdens of the city. We could name stores where goods bought of these men have been taken to for repairs, to match similar goods or for other purposes and when questioned as to the price paid it has been found two and three times as high as that asked by any responsible dealer on the street.

On Friday next the last concert in the Y. M. C. A. course is announced. The Temple Quartette assisted by Mrs. Lucia Mead Priest, reader, are the attractions. The Temple Quartette have been in the concert work for 22 years, and still retains two of its original members, and were never better constituted to do good work than with the present membership. Mrs. Priest ranks among the finest and most accomplished public readers and receives the most favorable comment everywhere. The combination of talent will render a fitting close to the Association's most excellent course.

We have no desire to injure Mr. Noah Jackson's chances of obtaining permission to move another old shell through Main street if the authorities see fit to grant the request, but would simply ask if it is not poor policy and if a line must not soon be drawn on this kind of work. Further, we would like to ask if the people disposing of the land for the new armory site have not got for it *all* it is worth including the buildings, and if so could they not afford to dispense with these building. Is it a fair thing to convey *old* buildings to a new section and plant them there when all around *new* buildings are going up. Does it look like public spirit and will not these old traps have a tendency to belittle the section into which they are planted? Of course they readily rent, but is it a fair thing all round? Mind you, we don't say it is or is not, we simply ask a question.

The Juvenile ball given by Mrs. J. C. Howard's pupils Thursday evening proved to be as usual a very successful affair, and the pupils showed the careful training of the teacher. Among the many pleasing dances was the Fancy Dance given by Mrs. Howard, Ardel Gorham and Olive Adams, which was very gracefully done. The Tambourine Dance by Florence Dunkason was one of the best numbers, and was finely danced; the costume worn by the young miss, of black tulle trimmed with yellow ribbons, was very pretty and appropriate for the dance. She certainly deserved great praise. The Fancy Waltz given by the four young misses was prettily done as was also the Spanish Dance given Minnie Roby and Pearl Horton. The Fancy Medley given by Allie Parker and Fannie Smith attracted a great deal of attention as the children are very cunning. Sailor's Hornpipe given by four young gents was another of the best numbers and greatly enjoyed. The Lawn Tennis in which nearly all the school took part completed the list of many pretty dances and was heartly enjoyed both by the pupils and audience. The children were all nicely dressed as was also Mrs. Howard whose costume of Heliotrope colored silk and pansy blossoms was beautiful. The parents of the pupils showed their appreciation of the teacher by giving her a handsome piano lamp, presented by S. W. Huntley. The affair added one more to the list of many pleasing balls, and reflects great credit on teacher and pupils.

The last entertainment in the C. C. Course will be on Monday evening, March 9th. It will be a concert of the popular English Bell Ringers, the Shipp Brothers, Charles, Albert, Walter and Harvey, assisted by Miss Mary E. Rayner, Reader. The following is the programme:

1.	Bells.	"March e des Troubadors." Shipp Brothers.	J. Dubier
2.	Zither Duet.	Campanel la Harry and Chas. W. Shipp.	J. Noroth
3.	Recital.	"Mr. Jingle and the Spinster Aunt." Miss Rayner.	Dickens
4.	Bells.	Imitation of English Cathedral Bells. Shipp Brothers.	Shipp
5	Duet	Banjeaurine and Banjo. "Flash Galop." Harry and Chas. W. Shipp.	Lansing
6.	Recital.	"The Escape." (from Les Miserables) Miss Rayner.	by Hugo
7.	Zither Solo.	"Mermaid's Song." Harry Shipp.	J. Norott
8.	Bells.	Shipp Bros.	Selected
9.	Recital.	Miss Rayner.	Selected
10	Bells.	'Good Night," (from "Martha") Shipp. Bros.	Arr. by Weston

Ex-Postmaster Currier, who is at present confined to the house through sickness, was surprised, Thursday evening, by a visit from the letter carriers who demanded an audience on the plea of important business. Mr. Currier who had retired for the night, came down stairs and was surprised to find himself presented with a very complimentary address tied with red, white and blue ribbons and signed by all the letter carriers, a solid gold watch chain, an order on Ferdinand & Austin for a $10.00 office chair, a silk muffler and a pair of monster fur gloves. 'Gene Forest, F. W. Abbott and A. B. Pierce acted as spokesmen and in a few suitable words told of the object of their visit. Fred, who we all acknowledge is fully able to take care of himself, was a little disabled in the first round but soon rallied and fittingly acknowledged the beautiful gifts and the sentiments accompanying them. After a pleasant hour's conversation the party withdrew, wishing their former chief long life, happiness and prosperity.

Have you a Cough or Cold?

—TRY OUR—

CHERRY LAUREL

COUGH BALSAM

It will cure you.

Prices: 25 and 40 cts.

Have you Rough or Chapped Hands?

Maloon's Amandine

Will make them as soft as a baby's.

Large bottles, 25 cts.

T. S. MALOON & CO.,

THE DRUGGISTS

174 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

COAL!

LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7.00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5.50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS,

Office, 11 Day Street.

TELEPHONE 218-2.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

Personals and other items of interest sent us by our patrons will be published if received in time and signed.

Fred A. Currier has been suffering from indisposition this week, but is now favorably recovering and will be out in a few days.

Miss Kate Farrell and Miss Ella M. Lamb formerly at the Boston Dry Goods store have accepted positions at Girard & Irish.

Mr. C. F. Irish of Girard & Irish has been in New York all the week making purchases for their cloaks and millinery department.

Miss E. A. Riggs of New York City will have charge of the millinery department at Girard & Irish's. It will be the largest milliney department of this city.

E. M. Read's candies grow more popular every week. Large quantities are on sale every Saturday at T. S. Maloon & Co.'s store and meet with a ready sale.

Tickets for the presentation of "The Drummer Boy" at city hall, March 24, 25 and 26 are now on sale by members of Post 19, G. A. R., and at E. B. Macy's and H. J. Lacy's stores.

Another rumor says that the Rollstone Machine Company is coming back to this city. If so it is a feather in Fitchburg's cap. Perhaps it will be a little humiliating to return, but judging from what we hear it would be a wise course.

Ex-Officer Joseph T. Battles has purchased of Mayor T. H. Shea, the fixtures of the Emory House and in a few days will assume the proprietorship.—[Evening Mail. Ahem! Understood the mayor's name was Graves. What a difference a single letter can make.

Look over the advertisements. There are several changes this week and all mean that the advertisers have something to sell cheap. A perusal of the advertisements will prove that the Christmas mark down sales are nothing in comparison to the present mark down sales.

Spring trade will now soon commence and owing to the scarcity of money the people will closely watch the prices the store-keepers quote to see which stores offer the best bargains. If you wish to get your share of the spring trade engage advertising space in TOWN TALK. As an advertising medium nothing can excel it.

Pictures of the cast for "Babie" will soon be on exhibition. They are made by Howard and are very good likenesses.

Have you tried Blooker's Dutch Cocoa, given free to all who call at E. M. Read's store? If not try it. It is simply splendid. By the way Mr. Read's candies, which have now gained universal favor, are on sale every Saturday and Sunday at T. S. Maloon & Co's drug store.

Herbert L. Chase and his company will present the three act comedy "Babie" at the opera house, Fast Day. Judging by a glance at the cast there are not many babies in it. The Fitchburg Mandolin and Guitar club will probably form an interesting feature in the entertainment.

A quantity of strawberries exhibited in front of E. B. Macy's store, Thursday, were highly suggestive of ice cream and strawberries on account of the weather. By the way we extend our congratulations to Mr. Macy on his good fortune and hope he will speedily come into possession of his share of the money. We hope also that the city will not lose the services of a good auctioneer.

Poets whose fancies run to long verses over beautiful snow will do well to keep away from the editorial rooms this year. The editors like not the snow shovel and any sentimental young man, who in a moment of weakness gives way to his feelings and writes a poem on this subject, on presenting himself at the sanctum will surely furnish a subject for the coroner. And the probabilities are that the editor will not only be acquitted, but will also be awarded a vote of thanks.

Dr. J. E. Luscombe has an old book printed in 1762 by Dowler & Draper, of Boston. It is an account of the confession and declaration of Fortune, a Negro, who was hung at Newport, R. I., in March 1762 for setting fire to certain stores on Long Wharf. Although so old and a little torn it is in a fair state of preservation and would make a good gift for the relic room at the public library. It was sent to him by Mrs. William Sherman of Plymouth, Mass., sister of Mrs. Luscombe.

After considerable correspondence and trouble St. Bernard's T. A. society has been able with Manager Dunn's aid, to secure the opera house, for March 17 to present the celebrated drama "The Drunkard" or "The Fallen Saved." "The Burglar" was booked for that evening, but, arrangements were finally made to cancel the engagement. The society promises to present the play with a powerful local cast and appropriate scenery and effects and will give an excellent performance.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That those who imagined spring had come to stay must have realized this week that there was a mistake somewhere.

That a well-known citizen is being quizzed a good deal about a new brand of underwear known as the "ice pick brand."

That if the saying is true "when March comes in like a lion it goes out like a lamb" March this year ought to sneak out so quietly as to be unobserved.

That one of our most popular mail carriers will soon become a benedict. The boys propose to give him a rousing reception when the event comes off.

That a bulletin board will be neccesary in Dickinson's new block or the visitors thereto will get lost. By the way step in and see what fine large rooms there are in this new building.

That the annual concert and ball of the Ancient Order of Foresters, at city hall, Easter Monday night, for which extensive preparations are being made, will be the great social event of the season.

That the "life and adventures" of John Fitch from whom it is said Fitchburg derives her name, has been published as local news in a Boston newspaper for the third consecutive year. Isn't the story getting a little "chestnutty"?

That a local correspondent for an out of town newspaper is a "hustler" as well as being possessed of wonderful mediumistic power. In reporting a social party held in city hall recently, he gave the name of a well-known (deceased) citizen as one of the participants in the "light fantastic step."

That the contemplated pugilistic encounter between a well-known military officer and a popular gate-tender has been indefinitely post-poned. The friends of the gate-tender had such confidence in the pugilistic abilities of their man that they deposited $100 with a local "Mayor," that the gate-tender would "knock out" his antagonist in the fourth round.

That all citizens should co-operate with the Board of Health in seeing that the general health of the city is preserved by the reasonable observance of their wise provisions. The Board is instructed to use its best efforts to guard against the seeds of contagion which slumbers in many unexpected places, and it is not the wish of the members of the Board to use harsh means, but they would be criminally liable should they fail to prosecute offenders after exhausting every other means of inducing them to comply with rules which have been drafted in the most lenient form.

That what a difference of opinion exists among Fitchburg people as to the worth and abilities of our physicians. Did you ever think of it? What harsh stories many people will retail about your favorite doctor? Our physicans give much away in the line of charity, and undoubtedly do more work with no return than any other class of Fitchburg's professional men. Except perhaps editors.

CHAS. E. KIRBY,
AGENT.
TRAVELERS LIFE AND ACCIDENT
INS. CO. of Hartford,
AND DEALER IN HIGH GRADE
INVESTMENT SECURITIES.

162 Main St., room 2.

Dinner Sets.

If you are thinking of purchasing a Dinner Set, call and examine the

Kenwood, Dove,
Pencil Hop, Clifton,
Arabic, Venice,
Floral, Tennyson,
Bedford, Foley,
Etc., Etc.

We will sell you Dinner Sets cheaper than you can buy them in Boston.

COLEMAN & DRURY,
138 MAIN STREET.

3000 PERSONS

SEE THIS.

SUPPOSE IT WAS YOUR AD.

GRAND
CONCERT.

Closing Entertainment

IN THE

Y. M. C. A.

POPULAR COURSE
AT CITY HALL.

ERIDAY EV'G. MARCH 13.

BY THE

Temple Male Quartette

OF BOSTON,

T. E. JOHNSON, 1st Tenor,
E. F. WEBBER, 2nd Tenor,
H. A. COOK, Baritone,
A. C. RYDER, Bass.

ASSISTED BY

LUCIA MEADE PRIEST, Reader.

BERTHA M. SILSBY, Cornet Soloist,

ADMISSION, 25 cts.

RESERVED SEAT, 35 cts.

Now on sale at the stores of MACURDA & SAWYER and J. E. THOMPSON.

Crowd the House!

Is it not a little surprising that our street commissioners do not ask to have those trees removed which interfere with the free and proper use of the sidewalks? It seems so to me, but then I am only a bird. There are some streets in this city where the trees are quite a detriment to the sidewalks and must be a little more than enough to be pleasant to the houses they are in front of. Perhaps many of you will recollect instances where trees come in the middle of the sidewalks, and while it may be a little hard to see fine old trees sacrificed they certainly ought to be removed when a detriment to the public walks. I am aware we have none too many trees, which is to be regretted, but we want them on the side rather than in the middle of the sidewalks.

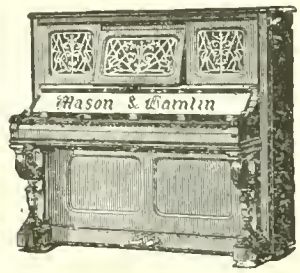
I am glad to notice that steps have been taken to put a stop to the practice of interfering with the railroad crossing gates because the practice is so fraught with danger to unsuspecting persons. I have several times seen persons put themselves in peril by interfering, delaying when crossing or by rushing on to the crossing too soon, and it has many a time seemed surprising to me that more accidents do not happen there. And just now I would like to say that I think "Dan" Sullivan makes a pretty good man to have around a crossing. He has been at his post going on 20 years and never yet had an accident that could in any way be laid to his carelessness. That's a pretty good record.

While I am speaking about the railroad I will allude to another practice which is a source of danger to those indulging in it and a great annoyance to the railroad officials. I allude to getting off the trains when in motion. Very frequently people go with friends to the depot to see them off and often, very often unnecessarily, get aboard the train to hold the last moment's conversation and to say goodbye. Sometimes this parting is so long and so interesting that before one realizes it the train is in motion and then a hasty shake of the hand, a kiss if the persons are ladies and I assert that ladies are even more guilty than men, and the only course left is to jump off while the train is moving. This is a practice that is attended with great danger and many a tragic death has been the result. Sometimes persons rush on to the platform and seeing a train starting out make a dive to get aboard whether it is the right train or not. If an accident happens then it is at once blamed on those stupid railroad men. Those stupid railroad men are often angels in disguise for they have many a time saved reckless individuals from a cruel death and have been roundly cursed for their trouble. A case of this kind happened at the Union depot not long ago and your raven witnessed the affair. Do all your talking and leave taking on the platform. It is safer.

Quite recently I drifted into church, I say *drifted* because it is not customary for ravens to go to church. I will not say *which* church I drifted into because if I do probably the janitor will keep a sharp look out for me another time. Let it suffice to say that I drifted into church. What interested me most was the singing, it was good old fashioned congregational singing in which the minister and everybody else joined in and sang heartily and it appeared to do everybody good. I think quite a number will agree with me when I say that we do not have enough of this kind of singing in our churches. In some churches about all the singing is done by the choir and about all the congregation has to do is to sit or stand and listen and—foot the bills. A church may have a good choir, or a very eloquent preacher or an enterprising set of church officers, but the church that has some good old-fashioned singing to popular tunes will be able to discount all others on the size of the congregation. That is the opinion of a raven that drifts into church once in a while.

I do not care to say very much about the Fitchburg letters in the out of town papers, but as a raven having some little interest in both "up" and "down" town I want to criticise the remarks of the correspondent of the Sunday *Herald*. In his last Sunday letter he opened by stating that there are "up town" and "down town" cliques, that each end of the town has interests to serve and that a sort of jealousy exists. The correspondent in question has lived among us long enough to know better than this, and if he knows more than any one else about this jealousy he would, if he cared anything about the city he lives in, use his efforts to clear away such jealousy instead of fostering it. But no such jealousy does exist and it does not need his apologetic reference at the end of the paragraph to sooth the statement over. Our "up" town and our "down" town merchants are anxious to get all the business there is to be got and like wide-awake traders they make efforts to get it Instead of endeavoring to help our merchants all they can some people seem anxious to stir up petty jealousies and make trouble if there is none.

ROES PAVEN.



IT IS A FACT

—THAT AT—

CHAFFIN'S

You can buy Musical Goods of all descriptions at a less price than any other place in Worcester County,

—including—

PIANOS & ORGANS

From the best makers and on easy terms of payments.

Their facilities for handling goods are unsurpassed, and their *Warerooms* replete with all the latest musical publications and musical goods.

Affable clerks are in attendance, and goods not on hand will be promptly ordered.

Tuning and Repairing by experienced workmen.

WAREROOMS:

157 MAIN STREET. 157

Telephone Connection.

FOR LUMBER

Call at yard of

C. A. PRIEST LUMBER COMPANY,

45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.

If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

SAMANTHA'S HERO.

"DECORATION DAY recalls the saddest memories to me," sobbed Miss Samantha Cartwright, as she applied her smelling salts to her ancient nostrils, "for it recalls to my mind the loss of one on whose form I shall never gaze again."

Samantha wept softly a moment, while the company sympathized with her, and then she went on:

"I have not even the privilege so many enjoy—poor though that be, even—of strewing with flowers my hero's grave, for I know not where he lies buried."

"Was he killed in action?" asked a veteran.

"I suppose so," sobbed Samantha, "but I never knew. The last letter I got from him he said a big battle was expected next day, and I have never heard another word from that day to this."

"That's hard," admitted the old soldier, "but others have had the same experience, women who were married to the missing men. Might I ask what your lover's name was?"

"Charles Tudor Montrose," replied Miss Samantha, between her sobs.

"What!" replied the veteran, with interest. "Did he enlist in the Fourteenth Connecticut?"

"He did! Tell me, did you know him?"

"Yes, I knew him, and I could place my hand on him now."

"You can!" gasped Miss Samantha. "Is he—is he true to me?"

"I'm afraid not. He's living on a ranch in Texas now, and is the father of nine children."

Samantha screamed.

"Yes," the veteran went on; "and he got out of State's prison only last year for being mixed up in some lynching scrape."

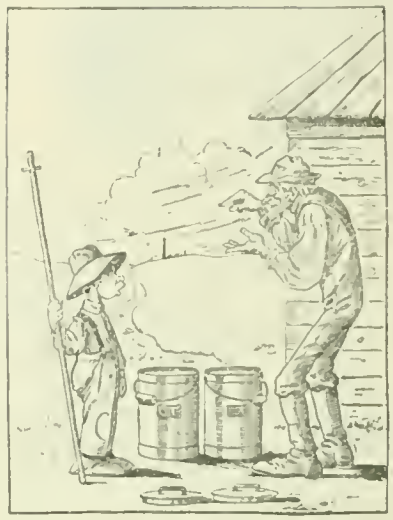
NOT A HALO.

MINISTER: *I have called on you, Brother Martin, to see what you are willing to subscribe towards a fund for the necessitous poor. I see you put your mite in the contribution box regularly every Sunday, and the entire congregation is loud in praise of your charity!"*

(It is at this particular moment that a phantom brass button rises above Brother Martin's head; and although it grieves us to say it, we are inclined to think Brother M. has been in the habit of dropping such bits of coin in the box for many Sundays past.)

A STORY WITH A MORAL.

The Moral: Never cry over spilt milk.



NOT BUILT THAT WAY.

"What do you suppose Emily Bates says in her letter?"
"What?"
"That Count Spaghetti has blown out his brains."
"I don't believe it."
"Why?"
"Because Italian count won't have brains."

Samantha betrayed symptoms of fainting.

"I was down in Texas looking after some business interests, and I ran across Charles Tudor Montrose. Leastwise that's the name he enlisted under, but now he calls himself Bill Thorpe. I guess it's safer for him to have a variety of names, for the detectives seem to have a hankering after him."

Samantha got paler still, but the old soldier went on:

"You see, he deserted from the army the night before that big battle he wrote of, and somehow got down into Texas in the course of time. We were glad he did, too, for he was the meanest man in Company F, if not in the whole regiment."

"Perhaps I should have added," said Miss Samantha, haughtily, as she walked out of the room, "that I was never engaged to Mr. Montrose. We were merely school acquaintances."

When the broken hearted spinster had taken her departure, the old soldier looked around and remarked:

"I thought so!"

"Thought what?" asked the man who sat next to him.

"That her Charles Tudor Montrose was an imaginary character. Lots of old maids who never had a beau tell how they lost their sweethearts in the war."

"But you said this man was in your own regiment."

"So I did, but there wasn't any such chap in the Fourteenth Connecticut, and she never had a schoolmate by that name. I was just drawing her out, and she stood it first rate, too. Perhaps it wasn't right, but I don't like to see people clamming heroes who have no right to 'em."

And the old soldier said he guessed he'd go then.

—*Wm. H. Sweet.*

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY BY

WRIGHT & OLDFIELD,

360 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE:

$2.00 per year; Single copies, 5 cents.

Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter.

MARCH 7, 1891.

In a few weeks more one of the principal subjects of conversation will be the change from No-License to License and the difference it will make in the city's condition. At present everything is so very quiet and orderly that any increase, even a comparatively small one, of drunkenness cannot fail to cause comment and criticism. The granting of licenses will be one of the most important subjects the aldermen will have to consider during their term of office. We have reasons for thinking that effort will be made to confine the number of licenses to a very conservative figure or figures and there is almost positive assurance that the maximum number will not be granted. Effort will most probably be made to confine the traffic to districts and licenses granted only to those who have a good record and who can be relied upon to live up to the conditions of their licenses, while the unlicensed places will be followed up with the same unrelenting vigor as at present. Much as Mr. Graves' course so far has been criticized it will probably be more so after the month of May. There is one thing about it, Mr. Graves has few political debts to pay and he is not therefore likely to be very much influenced by cliques.

***

If not out of place, and it hardly seems to us to be so, we would like to suggest that the city fathers will not incur the displeasure of the public by a wholesale improvement of the sidewalks. The late Mayor Culley commenced the improvement of the Main street sidewalks in the last half of his last term of office, and Mayor Hayden's administration also did a little more. There is still much more that needs doing and the city government should take steps to so improve our streets and sidewalks that it can no longer truthfully be said that Fitchburg is noted for its bad streets.

***

At the time of the Kemmler execution there was no end to the long maudlin articles full of sentimental gush over the cruelty of executing him by electricity. He was executed in a few moments and those who tried hardest were never able to clearly demonstrate that the first application of the current did not shock him into insensibility though it did not kill him. The first trial of this unusual method was accompanied by a little bungling it is freely admitted, but it was nothing to the recent sickening spectacle witnessed at Washington, Pa., last week, at the execution of a colored man, yet none of the "big" dailies have troubled to devote columns to denouncing the hanging method. The murderer attempted suicide in the morning by stabbing himself with a knife. It was thought he would die. Nevertheless he was carried to the scaffold, and strapped to a plank. When the rope was adjusted and the trap sprung, his body fell four feet. The rope snapped and the victim fell to the ground. The spectators rushed forward and assisted in carrying the body of the gasping, struggling criminal to the scaffold. The rope was again adjusted, and three minutes after the first drop he was again swung off, dropping a distance of two feet, where he struggled until he was dead. We are inclined to think Kemmler's execution was decidedly humane in comparison to this.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.

ARTISTIC

FLORAL DESIGN WORK,

A SPECIALTY

F. O. WILLARD,

FLORIST,

GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.

Telephone 13-3.

HAIDA LAMP.

GET THE BEST.

NICKEL-PLATED.
CENTRAL DRAFT.
PERFECT WICKING DEVICE.
EIGHTY CANDLE POWER.

—LOW PRICE.—

FOR SALE BY

Atlantic Tea Company,

227 MAIN STREET.

WASH BOARDS

ZINC BOTH SIDES,

ONLY 15c. EACH.

4 LBS. NEW DATES. 25 CTS.

40c. CHOCOLATE DROPS,

25 CENTS A POUND.

EVERYTHING AT LOWEST PRICES.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

KIMBALL & CO.

WE HAVE

ALL THE NEW IDEAS

IN

SPRING HATS

REPRESENTED IN ALL GRADES FROM

$1.19

—— TO ——

$3.00

EACH.

——WE CAN——

SAVE YOU MONEY

On every hat purchase, as we buy direct from manufacturers in case lots.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES

Nos. 54 and 55 proved easy to guess to all who knew them and that means many persons. No. 54 is Frank D. Page. No. 55 is Andrew Jewett.

No. 56 is not very tall but is quite solidly and powerfully built. His face is clean shaved and his upper lip wears the adornment peculiar to the sex. That has now turned to the shade which usually denotes advancing age. In the case of this sketch that is to be expected for he must be about three score years of age. He came here over 40 years ago from the little town of Richmond, N. H. and has been in business for himself and others ever since. His first occupation was a clerk in the store which he and his partner now run; he came into it as an employe, but is now a considerable owner of the store and block. It seems almost superfluous then to say that he is a business man. No. 56 has been, in years gone by, considerable of a politician and has served his fellow citizens both in the city council and the state legislature. His politics are of the shade known as Democratic and it must be stated here that there is no uncertain sound about his political bell; when it tolls it leaves behind it no uncertain sound, but speaks out with a very definite voice. No. 56 is a straightforward, honorable, business man and is a very social and agreeable person in company, and is so popular with his fellow citizens generally that when up for office his political opponents gave him many of their votes. Who is No. 56?

Here we have one of those odd and comical geniuses whose eccentricities become sources of inspiration to the minstrels in concocting their local jokes. One of a type, who, like the old-fashioned grocery store, where they most do congregate, are getting scarce in these days. Perhaps you might not actually "belub" him, as the colored brethren say, but you could not help being attracted by his cheery face and infectious laugh, which is of a style all his own. An out-and-out Yankee? Well, No. 57 would be a good study for a character actor, to see him sitting with a congenial group of loungers, laughing loudly at the right place in his own stories, and all the while opening and shutting a knife with his thumb. He is built like the average New Englander, rather lank and wiry, with grayish side-whiskers, and a somewhat florid complexion, due, no doubt to his open-air life. In fact, our subject is a farmer by occupation, and tills the soil in the out-lying districts of our city. Amidst the pastoral scenes of nature he has reared his children, until now he can count a respectable base ball nine among his sons, of various ages. But, with all these responsibilities of a large family and the weight of years, he is the same old No. 57, and probably will be to the end. Of course you know him—everybody does. Who is No. 57?

A SOUVENIR

—OF—

FITCHBURG, MASS.,

CONSISTING OF

31 Different Views

—OF—

BUILDINGS, STREETS, ETC.

25 Cents Each.

PUBLISHED AND FOR SALE BY

J. E. THOMPSON, STATIONER,

118 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

By mail, postpaid, upon receipt of price.

DO YOU KNOW

THAT Randel's Central Market is the place to buy your provisions?
THAT his goods are just what he represents them to be?
THAT he carries the largest and best selected stock of Provisions, Poultry, Game and Fruit to be found in the city?
THAT he can and will make better prices for Hotels and Boarding Houses, than any other dealer?
THAT if goods are not as represented they can be returned and money will be refunded?
THAT his prices are as low as the lowest, quality considered?
THAT the "Maple Grove" Sausages are the best ever sold in Fitchburg?

CENTRAL MARKET,

304 Main Street.

GEO. H. RANDEL.

Furniture!

Ranges!

Carpets!

Crockery!

GATELY & CO.

50 DAY STREET.

(Commenced in Vol. II, No. 4. Back numbers on hand.)

THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

In 12 chapters.—Copyright, 1891. All rights reserved by the author.

CHAPTER VII.

WHAT AILED BLACK TAB.

The rapid succession of uncanny occurrences in the kitchen of the Warfield homestead was of a character to inspire a breathless sort of terror, rather than to awaken a noisy demonstration of the same emotion.

Barker being at an age when it would have seemed ridiculous to scream in a childish manner, merely stood silent and motionless in the middle of the room. Miss Pond, under the first stimulating impulse of her fright sprang to her feet with a gasp. Then she relapsed into silence which she did not dare to break.

Although her limbs trembled so they would scarcely support her weight, she had not the courage to sit down. The wildest vagaries took possession of her brains. She had a feeling that as soon as she rose from the chair something else had taken possession of it. And as she afterward expressed it, she felt every moment as if that something else was "going to grab her if she tried to sit down."

It is uncertain how long Miss Pond would have stood there had she been in the room entirely alone. Or how long it would have taken Barker to get up courage to strike a match had *he* been the only occupant of the kitchen. As it was, however, the youth recovered from the paralysis of fright sufficiently to enable him to take a match from his pocket and strike it on his trousers.

The match did not appear affected with the general tendency to superstition. It burned as a healthy match should burn, and with sufficient brightness to show Miss Pond that there was no something in her chair ready to seize her when she stirred; and at the same time it showed that a door leading out into an adjoining shed had swung ajar, and indicating the possibility that a draught from that quarter rather than the breath of a spectral visitant had extinguished the light.

This did not account for the simultaneous stopping of the clock, it is true. But it cleared up enough of the doubtful occurrences to infuse some courage into the veins of Barker, and of sense into the mind of Miss Pond.

The youth held the match until it was burned out, and then he relighted the lamp, went to the shed door and closed that with a good, energetic bang, and lastly advanced upon the cat with something of the natural aggressiveness toward domestic felines which seems to be the natural inheritance of a boy.

"Get away from there, you black imp," he cried, aiming a blow at Black Tab with his hand.

The blow missed its mark, but the animal prudently retreated to a corner, where she arched her back and began to spit and snarl most viciously.

Barker, now thoroughly aroused, would have followed up his attack upon Black Tab had he not been called upon to desist by Miss Pond.

"Dont scare the poor brute out of her wits, Mr. Barker. I'm sure I don't blame her for acting queer in this terrible house," the housekeeper cried, finding her voice.

"What makes her act so like a fool, I'd like to know?" returned Barker.

For as he returned to his station on the wood-box the animal crept back to the dining-room door again and began to sniff and bristle and scratch at the threshold as though she scented a mortal foe on the opposite side of the door.

"There may be a mouse t'other side," suggested Miss Pond.

"But what *was* that noise"? she asked a moment later.

"Like enough it was a gust of wind, and it was that that blowed the door open," Barker replied.

"But the house shook—I felt it just as plain as could be. And something like a—a groan at the same time. Didn't you hear 'em?"

"It was all the wind—it is blowing up a storm, I guess. A sudden gust might shake the house, you know, and we was sitting so still we'd notice it. And the groaning-sound was from the same cause—a draught sucking through when the door swung open, and putting out the light and—and—"

He looked up at the clock. It was silent, and the hands pointed at half-past ten.

"I didn't think it was so late," he exclaimed.

"And the clock is stopped. That wasn't done by the wind," cried Miss Pond, triumphantly.

"No, I s'pose not. But maybe it is run down." Barker had been aroused to a thoroughly skeptical state by the recent necessity for doing something, and a suspicion that Miss Pond thought he was as

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much frightened as she had been. And to prove how silly it was for her to mind such things he started toward the clock with the intention of showing that it was run down and of winding it up again. But Miss Pond interposed.

"No Barker, don't touch the clock. James always takes care of it; he *never* lets me and he wouldn't like it if I allowed you to. And I always looked upon it as a bad sign for a clock to run down, anyway, and especially an old family clock like this."

"Bosh!" said Barker, returning to the wood-box. To tell the truth his own nerves had received such a thorough shaking up that he was trying hard to pull himself together again by pretending to an indifference which he came a great way from feeling.

"You're more unbelievin' than you was a spell ago, seems to me," said Miss Pond.

"I can believe in some things without being ready to swaller every old woman's whim." Barker saw a flash in Miss Pond's eyes and he hastily amended his remark by adding:

"I mean by that, that there may be something in dreams and even in spiritual circles and that sort of thing and still nothing in the common signs that folks believe in without thinking anything of the other notions."

This sounded less personal, and as Miss Pond felt in a measure dependent on Barker for protection and companionship she did not deem it expedient to exact a further apology. He had not called her an old woman, and probably had meant nothing of the kind by the remark.

"I've known as many men to believe in sich whims as I ever did women," Miss Pond declared, in support of her sex. To which Barker replied that he had, come to think of it, known more men than women who minded omens, and this prompted Miss Pond to say that she presumed that there was as many of one as of the other who believed in them, and so the best of feeling was restored, and Barker curled himself upon the wood-box again declaring that he felt more like sitting there all night and talking than he did like going to bed, to which Miss Pond replied that for her part she couldn't get a wink of sleep that night if she *did* go to bed, and that she wished he *would* stay down stairs for a spell longer, or until her nerves got quieted down a little.

"What were we talking about when the door blew open?" Miss Pond asked, while she leaned toward Barker and allowed her voice to sink down close to a whisper again.

"you was speaking of my Mr. Warfield asking about his lamp when he came down to breakfast this morning. He asked you something about it you said."

"Oh, yes. Well, what he meant by it is more'n I can conceive, though I've thought on't and thought on't in every way I could think on't."

"'Tisn't likely it's anything worth minding, whatever it was. If you knew him as well as I do you wouldn't think anything of everything he happened to speak about. He's notional sometimes. Maybe it didn't burn to suit him and he took that way to hint to you about it. But I wouldn't mind anything about it, whatever it was."

"I'm sure I take as much pains with my lamps as anybody does, and I don't care if I do say it myself."

"Of course you do. Maybe it wasn't that. He might have been just quizzing of you, to see what you'd say. He used to do that by me till I got sick of it and stopped answering of him when he asked me foolish questions."

"I don't believe your Mr. Warfield and mine are much alike, anyway," declared Miss Pond, whose implication of proprietorship in *her* Mr. Warfield was purely for the purpose of distinguishing the one from the other without presuming to the familiarity of mentioning either by his Christian name.

"Edward ain't superstitious; that's one thing," asserted Barker

"Well, I dunno as James is, for that matter, though he has changed about such things since them Fenlows come here. Sometimes I think."

Miss Pond come to a full stop as though she had suddenly decided to say no more on the subject. Whereat Barker's curosity was piqued and he asked what she broke off so sudden for, to which she replied that she didn't suppose she ought to gossip with strangers about family matters, seeing that her Mr. Warfield placed great confidence in her discretion.

But I don't see the use of being close mouthed with me, when Edward is his own brother, and he talked over the whole of James business right afore me. Why we're jest the same as all being in the same family, Miss Pond."

"I s'pose we be," admitted the housekeeper, and the fetters upon her speech were, in her estimation, removed.

"What I was on the p'int of sayin' was, "she resumed" that sometimes I think my Mr. Warfield sets a good deal by the girls. I always thought he wa'n't a marryin' man. You know some men seem to go right along and live settled old bachelors, and you no more think of their shi'nin' up to a girl than you would if they were married a'ready."

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT

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"Some be like that," Barker admitted.

"Wall, I allus set James Warfield down in my mind as that kind. He is allus civil to young women, and sort of free with 'em, as if there wa'n't no such thing as folks gettin' to talk about it. That's the way he was with *her* fust. But lately, he's acted di'frent, some way. I dunno how. He's awful afeared she'll git cold if she sticks her head outo' doors without a hood on, and he'll run like a school-boy to fetch her any nonsensical thing she happens to think on, and if she's makin' any embroidery or sich fussin' work he'll squint at it and talk about it as if he thought more about it than he did the whole of his farm. You've seen men act that foolish way, I'll warrant?"

"Yes, I've seen 'em, and it jest makes me sick!" declared Barker.

"Wall it allus seemed to me that it was sorter proper that a man *should* pay homage to the gentler sex in that way. I know I used to excuse it when they used to come buzzin' 'round *me* not that I'm goin' to tell you *who* used to do it"

Miss Pond fell into a state of dreamy abstraction from which Barker aroused her.

"You think James is sort of courting, do you?" he asked, with the purpose of reducing the subject to a logical outcome.

"Wall, mabbe I hadn't oughter say its gone so far as that *yet*," said Miss Pond.

"Just the same if he is so far gone that he tags her 'round the way you say."

"I've only stated things as they be. I ain't one that takes a little truth and adds to it so's to make a story sound well. I ain't no mischief-maker, and you need'nt think I be."

"Nobody said you was," declared Barker, who felt that Miss Pond was constantly in the accusative mood toward him.

"And I noticed," continued Miss Pond, lowering her whisper to a yet more cautious pitch," that your Mr. Warfield was inclined to stick to her pretty clost. "He couldn't keep his eyes off'n her this afternoon."

You needn't think she'll catch him," said Barker, decisively.

"I dont' s'pose she'd want 'em both. Two husbands would be more'n most women could manage, especially if they was bachelors and used to doin' jest as they had a min'ter."

"Edward Warfield don't want to get married, I know that. He travels round a good part of the time, and he says he'd rather have somebody with him that can help wait on him in the room of having somebody that he'd have to wait on. He likes to live in good easy shape and a man can't do that with a wife unless he has a mint o' money. That's what he says."

"All that would depend whether the man got a wife that couldn't do nothin' but set in the parlor and play the pianer, and never sew a stitch for herself nor wash a dish. Sich women, as the Lord knows are gettin' more plenty than t'other kind are enough to drag any man down to poverty and disgrace."

"I noticed one thing," said Barker, who was sure to have something new suggested to his mind by the last matter spoken of. "And that was that my Mr. Warfield ain't very much took with Mr. Fenlow."

"Land; But them two would be at sword's p'ints if they staid under the same roof for a week."

"I guess they would. My boss hates these velvety folks. He likes to have them outspoken. He won't swaller any soft-soap from anybody."

Miss Pond started to look into the stove, as the air was getting a little chilly, and Barker got down from the wood-box so that she could replenish the fire, when both chanced to look at the door of the dining-room again. And both uttered ejaculations of astonishment.

"I'll kill that cat!" cried Barker, for the animal was again at the threshold, and she seemed to be licking something from the floor close under the door.

"Don't, Barker, don't!" cried Miss Pond as the youth made a sudden dive toward the cat.

The latter arched her back again, and her yellow eyes glared defiantly at Barker. Barker hesitated a moment, glaring back at Black Tab. Then he noticed something on the threshold—something that looked almost like a drop of ink at that distance. But it was that at which the animal had been sniffing; and while she defied Barker she licked her chops, and sniffed, and licked her chops again.

Barker had no further thought of assailing Black Tab. The dark spot on the threshold had a fascination for him. He took the lamp from the table and approached it, while Miss Pond followed close in his rear, her angular form all in a quiver of suspense.

Barker bent over the threshold, his eyes growing wider as he stared. Black Tab interposed and began again to nervously lick the place. Barker thrushed her head away and the animal scratched his hand with a vicious snarl, and tried to get at the spot again.

"Why—the critter had a piece of meat—or—" Barker began. Then he caught the cat by her hind-legs and hurled her across the room.

"You black devil!" he cried.

For he saw that the spot on the threshold extended back under the door in a tiny pool—something which was not ink, nor was it water, nor was it a piece of meat.

Barker's finger, in its investigations was smeared with the vicid fluid. And from that moment he would not allow his other fingers to touch that one, for fear of contamination; and he opened the door with the hand that held the lamp, so as not to daub the latch, and then he craned his neck toward the large pool beyond the threshold, and the sinnous rivulet which fed the pool. And his eyes in their horrible fascination followed the rivulet back to find its source, and in so doing they were led to the casing next to the door down which the fluid trickled with a horrible stringiness—down from the top of the casing, and to that from the top of the room where a small piece of plastering had fallen out. And there was the source, or at least the first that was visible of that which formed the pool and the rivulet, and over which Black Tab hovered with such eagerness, and at which the eyes of Miss Pond and Barker stared and stared until it seemed as though they could never stare enough.

Barker took his gaze off and turned back. He thrust Miss Pond into the kitchen, fol-

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lowed her, kicked Tab out of his way for she was again creeping up, and then closed the door and clung to the latch with a grip that implied a fear that some terrible force would open it if he should let go.

Then he managed to articulate:

"For God's sake Miss Pond!"

The latter sank upon a chair, shaking as with an ague. Her lips were bloodless and now that her eyes could not stare at the pool and the rivulet they stared in the same terrible way at the face of Barker who stood mutely confronting her with the contaminated finger sticking out separately from its fellows.

"It—it—was that—that made the cat act so!" he managed to articulate.

"And the light!" supplemented Miss Pond, to whom speech was contagious.

"And the groan," said Barker.

"And the house shake," added Miss Pond.

"And the shed-door fly open," pursued Barker.

"And the clock stop," Miss Pond finished.

And so having summed up the catalogue of marvelous accompaniments of that which had occurred in the room over the dining room, both Miss Pond and Barker relapsed into silence again, staring at each other in a way to add to each other's dreadful sensations, and until both averted their faces from sheer inability to bear the strain another instant.

But what must they do: Looking at each other and shuddering was not the whole of their duty. Both mentally acknowledged that. It would not answer for Barker to go back to the wood-box and crouch upon it, nor for Miss Pond to return to her chair by the stove and resume the whispered gossip.

They had discovered something which must be proclaimed to others. It was true that Black Tab, having one sense keener than their's had scented the mystery before their eyes beheld it; but Black Tab could not be expected to proclaim anything, except in her own way of ruffling her back and spitting and licking her chops. And, so far as that was concerned, Black Tab had done her duty already by proclaiming the mystery to Barker and Miss Pond. So now upon these more sensitive beings devolved the responsibility of telling some one else in the household.

"They—they havn't gone to bed yet?" queried Barker.

"No, I don't b'lieve they have. Though its most 'leven. But James never goes so early and—but what if—*what* shall we do?"

"We must go to the front room and see if they're there, and alarm 'em. They must know, whoever is there; and then we'll know where that—that blood—"

Miss Pond covered her eyes.

"Don't, don't!" she cried.

"But we must."

"I—I can't *never* go in there again. I can't go through there to tell 'em."

"Then we'll go out doors and round to the front door, and in that way. Then you won't have to see the stuff again."

Without another word, and arm in arm, so that neither would have to be in the rear and neither have to lead, they ran out through the shed, and breathlessly around to the piazza, where the light from the sitting-room shone brightly out.

(To be continued.)

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PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOMMODATIONS.

A very serious question confronts the people of this city more especially the friends of the Public school system and all who believe in the American system of education. For sometime now the accomodations in every part of the city have been limited and in several sections totally inadequate. The superintendent of schools and the school committee have more than once called public attention to it and the city council has appropriated various sums for school purposes, but the lamentable fact remains, public school accommodations are not near equal to the demand. The time has come when something more than a simple discussion of the situation is needed and the welfare of the rising generation demands speedy action for the relief of these congested school-houses. Complaints are frequently made that children are running around the street when they should be in school and that others are attending places unfit for them to be housed in for educational purposes, and which are run in open violation of the law, but what can the school authorities do when on every side they find authorized schools full to overflowing? If the law is put into operation against the parents who are willingly or unwillingly violating it, what excuse can the authorities offer for forcing the children out of these apologies for schools? If they do not enforce laws what account are they to give to the people for not fulfilling the obligations they have assumed? The answer is plain, the city council has not furnished the means for carrying on the work needed. The people look to the school committee to enforce the laws they were elected to enforce; the school committee look to the city council for the necessary facilities with which to carry on the work, and the council in turn is responsible to the people for all official acts, whether it is the saving or expenditure of money. We are satisfied that the people as a whole will sanction the expenditure of any reasonable sum for the necessary and ample provision of school accommodations, and we urge upon the City Fathers the expediency of at once taking steps to accomplish this end, even if $50,000 or $100,000 has to be especially borrowed for this purpose. The need of decisive action in this direction is painfully apparent to all observers. Around us on all sides are young people who greatly need the advantages our public schools alone can offer and the demand increases at a rapid rate—out of all proportion to the effort being made to supply it. To put the question off from month to month only adds to the final embarrassment and the evil must sooner or later be met. The longer it is delayed the more difficult will be the task. Unless the young boys and girls are gathered into school, cared for and educated the probabilities are that provision will have to be made for them in other public institutions and the ones referred to cost the people far more than our little red school-houses. The city owes these boys and girls a fair chance and an elementary education. Give them a fair start, even from a mercenary point of view it is cheaper to educate them than it is to keep them in jail.

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Leominster Breezes

THEY SAY

That Post 53, G. A. R. will hold a memorial Sunday afternoon March 22.

That the Wilder Lodge F. and A. M. will pay a fraternal visit to Fitchburg, Monday evening.

That it seems that the hat found by Mr. Camp belonged to a young man in Fitchburg so the Leominster boys have not got to stand that.

That there is a young man in Kingman's factory who does not like to be called *book-keeper*. But, Georgie don't get mad every one is on to it.

That the Citizens' Club seem to be coming to a natural death and the interest which at first was taken seems to be about ended and unless something is done to revive it the club must surely die.

That Ex-Representative Henry Cook is missed in the House the present term and that almost every one who knows him there would like to see him back for the sake of the life which he gave some of the discussions.

That the *Deacons'* toboggan slide just off Summer street is destined to become the favorite resort for those who are proficient in climbing the side of a house. Take our advice and when you visit the slide do so when sober.

That the Board of Trade will be organized tonight and by the interest which seems to be taken by the business men of the town it will be a sure go and is destined to become one of the most beneficial institutes the town has ever had.

That there are many complaints make by those who reside on the streets leading out of town in regard to the large numbers who ride along their streets, especially Sundays, and conduct themselves in anything but a gentlemanly way.

That Leominster Lodge I. O. O. F. have the best suite of rooms in Worcester Co. and the members are more than proud of them. They will be formally dedicated the 11th. of this month and that all the grand officers will be present and a grand time will be the order of the day.

Shall we have License seems to be a question which is agitating the minds of some of the voters here and truly it is a subject worthy of thought. Clinton and Fitchburg both with License the coming year and Leominster without will cause much trade to leave town for one or the other of the above named places. With License rightly handled there will be no more hard liquors sold than there has been the past year. True there will be more beer and ale but no more whiskey and rum.

That there is likely to be the usual row over the town officers and that already the names of about 20 new candidates are talked of on the street. That there is plenty of talk about the new candidates but what about the present board? Are we going to fire them all off? What have they done but what was all right is a question which no one seems to answer.

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—AT—
MACY'S.

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

"Ship Ahoy" is booked here for April 13.

Tickets to Bernhardt's performances in Boston brought very high prices at auction.

"Ship Ahoy" at the Park theatre, Boston, seems to be a case of Ah! there, Ship Ahoy! stay there!

Neither Edgar L. Davenport nor Emma Sheridan will be members of the Museum company next season.

A number of Memphis capitalists are interested in the launching of Lucille LaVerne, a Southern girl with dramatic aspirations, who contemplates starting shortly.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett is on her way to New York from Paris. She has completed a new play, which she will dispose of on her arrival. "Fauntleroy" is said to have netted her $40,000.

Mr. John McNally of the Boston *Herald* is writing a new farce comedy, which will be produced at the Hollis street theatre next September. Meanwhile his "Straight Tip" is drawing the largest of audiences in New York.

Bernhardt's reappearance convinces the public that she is today the greatest actress in the world. No longer young, nor beautiful, she has the true fire of genius and hundreds of our actresses would do well to take example by Sarah's interpretations of characters.

Henry E. Dixey emphatically denies the statement made by a dramatic paper that he was to quit starring and support Lillian Russell. He states that he is to produce a new play which has not yet been named. He will in the meantime continue to rake in the shekels. Henry does not make the last statement, but it is true just the same.

During John L. Sullivan's recent Chicago engagement, the night before the great Dempsey-Fitzimmons fight, the story goes that Boston's pride had seen several of his friends before the performance and was feeling rather cheerful. At one portion of the scene his lines were: "Never mind, mother I'll take care of you." When the time came for him to make this speech he strode to the foot-lights and striking an attitude, shouted "Dempsey will lick this here bloke Fitzsimmons because I'm an American and he's an American, too—see? Then he stalked back to the centre of the stage and said: "What I just said goes; but never mind, mother, I'll take care of you."—[Worcester Light.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Friday last, Harry P. Mawson's military comedy "A Fair Rebel" was presented before an average audience. This production is of a similiar nature to "Held by the Enemy" "The Blue and the Grey" and one or two other dramas founded on incidents connected with the late civil war. Edward R. Mawson, as Col. Mason; J. P. Keefe as, Dr. Stillman; Belle Bucklin, as Joan Fitzhugh; Fanny Gillette, as Clairette, and Leslie Tillson, as Margarette Wythe all sustained their parts well and were ably supported by other members of the company. The scenery was good and on the whole the play was very enjoyable.

Apparently the manager of the opera house is strictly observing Lent for we are now having long waits between plays. For next week Cleveland's Minstrels are announced and their performance is said to be very satisfactory in every particular. The singing is declared excellent and the costumes and effect in the first part are reported as very elaborate and sumptuous and equal to anything seen on the road. The old favorites, Billy Rice, Sweatnam, Banks Winter, the Neapolitan Quartette and Messrs. Sinclair Howard, Thompson and Matcher render some excellent selections and exchanges before us pronounce the whole performance excellent.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

At the Boston Museum the successful presentation of "The Solicitor" and "Betty's finish" give way to the beautiful English play "Sunlight and Shadow." It will in all probability draw the same large enthusiastic audiences that the preceding plays have on account of its beautiful presentation by the Museum company. Those who enjoy strong and emotional scenes performed by a company made up of ladies and gentlemen of great ability will thoroughly enjoy a visit to the Museum.

"The Hustler" has held the boards at the Boston theatre this week and has done a fair business. The piece does not appear to have pleased the Boston critics very well although they admit that there are some very clever persons in the company. Next week "Yon Yonson" is announced and judging by extracts sent us from New York the piece will prove eminently satisfactory and successful.

"Ship Ahoy" at the Park theatre seems destined to rival "The Soudan" in its prosperous long run. The audiences seem to grow larger and more enthusiastic each week and we advise all Fitchburgers who visit the Hub to take a peep at this pretty and amusing opera. It is worth twice the amount asked for admission.

The Kendal's close another brilliant engagement at the Hollis street theatre, this evening. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are great favorites in Boston and have had a very successful four weeks engagement. Next week the distinguished New York success "Blue Jeans." This play is the work of Joseph Arthur author of "The Still Alarm" and will no doubt draw large houses.

"A Fair Rebel" which visited this city last week has been the attraction at the Globe this week and has pleased good audiences there. Next week this will give way to Gus Williams and John T. Kelly in U and I.

OPERA HOUSE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 10,

Cleveland's Minstrels.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17,

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GEO. Z. PAGE

359 MAIN STREET.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

Boston, Mar. 6, 1891.

Thanks, President Harrison. As You would not continue *in* the old Corse, am glad to know you had a good Hart. We will grin and Barret.

The Charity Club Bazaar proved a financial success. About $3,000, was realized toward the Free Surgical Hospital fund. Mr. B. F. Keith, proprietor of the Bijon theatre, threw open his doors on Sunday evening and presented an excellent concert in aid of this worthy cause, adding the entire proceeds, $300, to the Bazaar profits.

Miss Emma Tonissant, the young woman who assumed charge of the working girls' table, is a very accomplished linguist and writer. Miss Touissant has recently translated from the French, "A Parisian in Brazil" and I am told she is at present engaged on an Indian play.

Monday noon is a great hour with Joseph Cook at Tremont Temple and Phillips Brooks at St Pauls.

No moths on Governor Russell.

A well known Columbus Ave. druggist has a novel way of displaying his taste and advertising skill. His store is a corner one and sets back about 13 feet from the inside sidewalk limit. To bring his establishment into prominence, he has invented and had made a very beautiful sidewalk show case, which is worth going a long distance to see. The case is of ebonized wood, brass mounted with oriental roof, pagoda shaped, is 11x3 feet and measures 8½ feet in length. It is tastefully fitted up with toilet articles on glass shelves and lighted brilliantly by electricity.

Am too disgusted with the fickleness of our climate to be at all charitable in my comments, yet after all, are not certain changes sent that we may appreciate the sunshine more, when we do get any? Some natures are wonderfully subject to atmospheric changes. A dull gray day always brings to my mind all the disagreeable details of life—unpaid bills for example, the sins of youth, smoky chimneys and all other ills to which spirit and flesh are liable.

Women are to once more wear collars and cuffs. Criminals will continue to be collared hand cuffed

Attention, Womans Relief Corps! The Charles Russell Lowell Corps 28 of Boston, will celebrate its eighth anniversary, on Monday next, in the evening at G. A. R. hall of Post 7, by opening a fair, to be continued through the week. Mrs. Mary E. Knowles and other officers of the Dept. of Mass. will be present. Give them a friendly call if in Boston during the week

A second supply of lymph has been received and administered at the Mass. General Hospital. 12 of the first 24 patients have been discharged and in a fair way toward complete recovery.

The Adams Express Company here in Boston have a five horse electric motor that operates two machines for grooming horses, so that two men can groom a horse in less than five minutes.

The crematory outbids the grave three to one at least. While it costs but $30.00 to get incinerated, (if a member of the society) no ordinary burial can be had for less than $100. There is no such destroyer of old time prejudice, as the pocketbook. So Emma Abbott's wish has been obeyed! Did you read the last request of Puck Meyer of New York? "Scatter my ashes from the top of the statue of liberty, to the four winds of Heaven and be jolly about it." It was done and his friends were "mum" about it. No real pain but lots of the sham sort.

Watching the snow squall Wednesday last and hearing a baby squall close by, I was reminded of a funny thing in the Philadelphia *Record*. A man named Snow became a father, and sent this announcement to the local paper: "A little Snow drifted into my house last night."

Mrs. Kendal, with her daughter, Miss Daisy Grimston, have received daily from 11 a. m. to 5 p. m. at their apartments at the Vendome. It was a pleasure indeed to meet this delightful, wholesome woman, a true ornament to the stage, as well as in the home circle.

The auction sale of seats for the Bernhardt nights, was a necessity but it seems a little too far fetched for anyone, especially a woman who can do so much good with superfluous cash, to pay a premium of $32.00 for one seat, as was done. The bids were high, hundreds of seats sold for each performance at a premium of from $3.00 to $10.00. Well, Sarah is a genius and it is worth double price to see her. "Cleopatra" will be the thing to see her do this time. Bernhardt's engagement, coming directly on the heels of that of the Kendals', will leave the society theatre-goer no respite.

The audiences which have thronged the Hollis Street Theatre for the last four weeks, will simply change their base.

Marion Howard.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop't

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

Winter is departing, and spring is near at hand. *April, May and June of 1890* was by far the *best* business we ever knew in the *ten years* that we have sold goods in Fitchburg, thanks to the good people of this city.

We hope to make the spring of 1891 better than the last, and if *good goods, good work, with low prices* will do it, *we shall have it*.

Everybody reads Town Talk from *beginning to the end*, advertisements and all, so we can keep you posted.

We have had more than 35 years experience in the millinery business and think we know something about it. When you come and patronize us, you will think so too.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

Mohair Brilliantines.

The most sensible Dress Goods ever given to woman. They will not wrinkle or cockle and the dust shakes right off them. Besides so very cheap.

We offer for next week 15 pieces of handsome Black and White Stripe Brilhantine, the regular price of which has been 50 cents, at only 29 cents per yard.

Lady readers of Town Talk will do well to avail themselves of this *Bargain* at once as the price will not last long.

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500 Lbs. Chocolates

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[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

IRON HALL.

The Iron Hall is making strenuous exertions to do business in Maine, and a hearing was given before the judiciary committee this week which occupied about four hours. Mr. Butler of Boston, one of the officers of the society, opened for the petitioners, and explained at length the objects and benefits of the order and was followed by W. A. Rice, P. M. Somerby, supreme justice, and others. Judge Symonds of Portland, as counsel for the order, made an able argument in favor of the petitioners. No one appeared in opposition.

The supreme officers had a session at Indianapolis, Indiana, the headquarters of the order, on Thursday last week and consideration made of the fact that state legislatures are now in session, in several of which special legislation concerning the order is contemplated. Action was taken in this matter, and members of both sexes are likely to be placed on equality as regards the amount of benefits to which they are eligible.

The total net assets of the Iron Hall are announced to be $1,589,779.79.

The total amount paid out thus far for seven year endowments is given at $2,012,684.

Paid for sickness and deaths to date, $2,673,073.

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

Raymond Odd Fellows are to erect a handsome block in that town.

Comrade Schragle and wife have the sympathy of all in their bereavement.

One hundred and one applications were received at the supreme office of the Order of the World last week.

Bros. H. B. Babbitt, H. C. Lewis, S. P. Durant and C. S. Keith of Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M. are unable to follow the hunt.

The entire membership of the Royal Arcanum is now over 105,000. According to the number of present accessions the supreme secretary thinks it will be 113,000 by April first.

The Knights of Honor at large now number 133,984. The total death benefits paid to January 19, were $18,048,278.21.

"My husband belongs to half a dozen secret societies already, and now he thinks of joining still another, when I expect to lose sight of him altogether." remarked a lady the other night.

Aurora Lodge, F. and A. M., will confer the M. M. degree on one F. C. Monday evening, and will also entertain visitors from Leominster and Clinton. A collation will afterwards be served by Caterer E. M. Read.

A bill has been presented in the Delaware legislature providing that investment and bond companies, and other similar concerns, must deposit with the state treasurer a bond for one-half the aggregate amount of their liabilities. Such a law, if adopted by every state, would soon make such schemes conspicuous by their absence.

Merrimac Lodge I. O. O. F. of Lowell has voted $25,000 for the building fund of the new structure in that city; Mechanics lodge gives $20,000, Lowell lodge $15,000, and Oberlin lodge will, it is expected, vote between $25,000 and $30,000. The balance of the required fund of $100,000 or more will be made up by the other lodges and encampments.

The Manchester *Press*, answering a contemporary's slurs on fraternal benefit orders, has this terse remark to offer: "When all the orders, lodges and bond companies succeed in defrauding as many people in New Hampshire as the old line Charter Oak insurance company did, it will be time for others besides this brother of Balaam's beast to tune his bazoo."

The Michigan *Herald* in speaking of the separate jurisdiction question in the Order of the A. O. U. W. comments on the unexpected ravages of la grippe in New York, Illinois, California and Pennsylvania (four of the largest jurisdictions) and sees in the experience a great argument in favor of uniting all the jurisdictions into one. The *Herald* argues that the favorite jurisdiction of one year is the unfortunate one next year and therefore a greater amount of protection lies in all being banded under one Relief Law.

The following figures represent the cost of $1000 insurance in the Orders named for 1890 and speak for themselves. At 25 years of age, Knights of Pythias 4th class $9; Knights of Honor, $12.50; Knights and Ladies of Honor, $8.75; American Legion of Honor, $9.60; Royal Arcanum, $5.80; plain life insurance rates $20.50; 20 annual pay, life, $28.10; 10 annual pay life, $43.50. At 40 years of age, Knights of Pythias, 4th. class, $13.20; Knights of Honor, $12.50; Knights and Ladies of Honor $12.50; American Legion of Honor, $15.36; Royal Arcanum, $10.30; plain life insurance rates, $32.20; 20 annual pay, life, $39.80; 10 annual pay, life, $60.40. It will be seen from this that the Royal Arcanum is the lowest and the plain life insurance companies the highest rated.

The last order on the fraternal endowment plan to be chartered was the Order of the Rainbow, which took out its charter April 28, 1890. Since then no new charters of this nature have been issued. No efforts were made to obtain members under the charter until about a month ago, and already about 2000 members have been secured. This order is non-secret, and requires no medical examination. It pays $500 in five years, $20 per week in sick or accident benefits for five weeks, and $100 at death; assessments are only $1 each, and there will probably be only 12 or 15 a year, for some time at least.

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SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley, 10 a. m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.15, prayer meeting in the chapel; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor, subject, "The Motive Power for Service"; 11.50 Bible School; 4 p. m., Swedish services with sermon, 6, young people's meeting, 7, Vesper Praise service with short sermon. All are cordially welcome.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Anchored"; at 12 m., Sunday School. 7 p. m., service of praise and prayer. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor, Sunday School at 12 m.; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. E. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by pastor; Sunday School at 12 m.; Young People's meeting at 6 p. m. At 7 p. m. Rev. E. L. Rexford, D. D. will preach, subject, "The Witness of the Spirit." All are welcome.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m., preaching by R. C. Brown of New Britain, Conn., subject "What is Truth?" evening service at 7 p. m., subject, "The Object of Christ's Death." All are cordially invited.

Rollstone Church (Congregational), corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor; 12 m. Sunday School; 7 p. m., People's service, address by Mrs. R. C. Hitchcock in the interest of Straight University, New Orleans. Public cordially invited.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes.

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BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

A VOTE

—FOR—

—FOR—

BANNER

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

Shipp Bros. hand bell ringers at C. C. church.

TUESDAY.

Cleveland's Minstrels at the opera house.

WEDNESDAY.

Old Folks Basket Party at music hall.

THURSDAY.

American Mechanics' dance at G. A. R. hall.

FRIDAY.

Y. M. C. A. Concert at city hall.

LENT HAS COME!

PLENTY ∴ OF ∴ FISH

—AT—

The Public Markets.

No. 1. No. 2.

177 MAIN ST. 374

L. A. COUSINS.

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BREAD FLOUR

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—AT—

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THE FLOUR

THAT WILL MAKE THE

MOST BREAD

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—AT—

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TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

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Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St
A. L. Williams & Co., Grocers, 153 & 155 Main St
H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 371 Main St
E. E. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St.
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St.
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. A. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.\
NUMBER 11.}

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New Baby Carriages just in, and they are beauties.

Look over our Store, get our prices and make your own terms, by our special system of credit.

CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

MRS. SARAH W. BULLOCK.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

Mrs. Bullock is very probably the oldest lady in the city being within two months of 100 years. She resides with her son William L. Bullock, at 92 Day street and is remarkably bright and vigorous for one so old. The above picture is made from a photograph taken when she was 93 years old, by Mr. Howe of Brattleboro, father of Mary Howe, but is a good likeness as she now appears. Mrs. Bullock is a native of Guilford, Vt., where she was born May 6, 1791. She has resided in that state all her life with the exception of the past six years during which time her home has been in this city. She was twice married and is the mother of seven children, three of whom are living—one son by her first husband and two by her second. On her last birthday there was quite a family gathering at her home and her sons residing out of town were present—H. H. Packer of Boston, 74 years old, and Edward L. Bullock of Hartford, Conn., 58 years old. Mrs. Bullock enjoys good health and spirits and takes much interest in current events for one so far advanced in years. She looks forward with pleasure to her next birthday, now so near, and all our readers will unite with us in hoping that she may see the day.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

The petite girl is old fashioned. The plump girl has gone out like the tournure. The majestic, the willowy woman reigns supreme. Why? Why do tall woman invariably marry little men? Why do the stoutest women choose the brightest and showiest gowns? Why do short girls wear plaids and tall girls wear stripes? Why do middle-aged men fall in love with younger sisters, and old men court and marry school girls? Why is there ever and always an unanswerable, incomprehensible why to all the questions of life?

A funny thing occured during the fourth act of the "Clemenceau Case" recently in Toledo. Emma Bell was alone on the stage seated at the desk writing a couple of letters. She made two or three wild dashes with the pen, a few flourishes and finished, while a titter began to ripple through the audience. A gallery god who was leaning alertly over the rail, took in the situation at a glance and yelled at the top of his voice: "Ah, wat's de matter wid ye? She's writin' short hand." This brought down the house with uproarious laughter for a length of time, to the great amusement of all before and those behind the curtain, and it was sometime before Miss Bell could again proceed with her part.

The necktie camera, or photographic necktie, is out. It is a French invention, whereby you can take the likeness of a person during a moment's interview by merely pulling a string concealed under the vest. A Chicago firm has the agency, and is prepared to receive orders for the instrument. There are a thousand unknown possibilities for this affair, which will no doubt become a great fad.

More gas. A machine for manufacturing gas from wood and Lima oil has been set up at Attleboro. From one cord of dry wood and 300 gallons of crude oil the machine will turn out in from two to three hours 60,000 to 80,000 cubic feet of gas of 20 to 30 candle power and 65 bushels of merchantable charcoal.

The poor people of England must experience a feeling of sadness at the loss of the steamer Iowa on her voyage to Liverpool on account of her cargo: Among the items of her manifest were 422 cattle, 760 boxes of bacon, 667 boxes of hams, 936 tierces, 550 firkins and 1,600 pails lard, 5,622 sacks of flour, 18,531 bushels of corn, 1,875 quarters of beef, and many other heavy items of provisions. The value of the cargo was about $351,000. How many hungry people wish they had a share of it.

Miss Mary Anderson (Mrs. Navarro) has created some stir in theatrical circles by advertising the sale of all her stage dresses, theatrical scenery, and stage properties, thus confirming the announcement that it is her intention to retire definitely from the stage.

A new skirt is made with but a single seam,—that down the middle of the back. This requires material 50 inches wide, as its width makes the length of the skirt. The material is folded with selvage at the top and bottom; this fold extends down the middle of the front. The top of the front and sides is curved slightly, and is closely fitted to the form by five short darts, one taken in the middle of the front and two on each side. The necessary space for the opening at the back is left on the selvages, and the remaining edges are sewed together, making a staight seam that falls down the middle of the back. The curved and fitted top is corded and hooks behind. At the foot of the skirt the selvage is left quite straight in front, and is curved along the sides, shortening it sufficiently to round gracefully where it meets the long straight seam of the back.

SPECIAL SALE

—OF—

Winter and Shopworn GOODS

At a Great Reduction.

You can save from 25c. to $1.50 a pair on these goods.

D. H. PIERCE'S CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,

185 Main St.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE

Office Toilet Supply Service?

FURNISHED BY THE

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO.

229 MAIN STREET.

CLOSING SALE

—OF—

Overcoats and Ulsters.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SAVE MONEY.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.

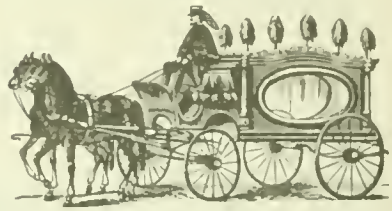
WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.

Spring Goods are now coming in, and our Men's, Youths' and Boys' Overcoats and Ulsters

MUST GO!

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.



H. A. LeSure. F. D. LeSure.

LeSURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 Day St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,

INSURANCE,

145 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

DICKINSON'S NEW BLOCK.

FIRE INSURANCE.
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

Scientific men say that the earth's age is about a half a million years for the nebular and stellar period, and about 25,000,000—of which 15,000,000 are past—for the period of organic beings. This does not appear to tally very well with Genesis.

A Philadelphia man has invented a machine which he call a readerscope. It reflects the contents of daily papers upon the ceiling of barber shops so that the man in the chair can read the news as he reclines. Fitchburg arbers will apply for these 'scopes early to avoid the rush.

Baron Maurice de Hirsch's signature to the document by which he gives $2,500,000 to ameliorate the condition of his countrymen in America is thus described: "There was a bold start, a wild zigzagging of pen marks up and down, and finally a tangle which might be taken to mean anything that suited the fancy of the reader. Yet nobody felt called upon to criticise the penmanship."

Even funny men do not always escape the "blues." Poor Sol Smith Russell is said to have them badly just now over his loss by fire on a block of buildings he owned in Minneapolis. He didn't have much insurance, only $160,000. Sol with his insurance money will be able to worry along for a while until he can pick up some more good things. He is an actor of very high rank, a gentleman and a good fellow but when he plays the inventor in "The Poor Relation" or "The Tale of a Coat" he does not look as if he were likely to be carrying $160,000 insurance on a splended block of buildings in Minneapolis.

We give this from the Boston *Transcript* for what it is worth, but a little observation will convince the reader that the "Listener" is just a little mite at sea: The Listener observed a very curious and interesting thing the other night. He had occasion to wait for an evening train in the Columbus avenue station. As he entered and sat down there were already eight men and two women sitting on the benches, and, having nothing better to do, the Listener noticed that every one of the men had his left leg crossed over his right knee, while it was sufficiently apparent that in the case of the two ladies this state of things was exactly reversed. As the Listener was meditating upon the reason for this curious circumstance, a lady and gentleman entered and sat down: and immediately the gentleman put his left leg over his right knee, while the lady joined her feet in the recent in exactly their attitude. By and by more men came, and more: and every one of them put his left leg over his right knee until there were actually 17 men sitting in that position in the little waiting room. Only one more lady came, but she, too, followed exactly the example of the other women. Seventeen men and four women in one room, all with one knee over the other, but the woman's and the men's crossed in reversed directions. Is there any physiologist who can explain why this should be so?

A Providence grocer wagered that he could charge up a gallon of molasses to twenty different customers who traded on credit with him and at least eighteen out of the lot would pay without question. He did even better than he hoped to, as nineteen out of twenty paid and the other said he'd see his wife first and ask if it wasn't an error.

A Chicago landlord shot one of his boarders for joking about the butter. The trial came off and the prosecuting lawyer made every effort to convict the prisoner. It was explained afterwards that he had been a guest at the house and knew the butter would have killed the boarder without the landlord's assistance in a few days more.

ECONOMY IN FUEL

BY THE USE OF THE

GAS CO'S PREPARED

COKE!

The Gas Company now has

PREPARED COKE ON HAND.

A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.

A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

3000 PERSONS

SEE THIS.

SUPPOSE IT WAS YOUR AD.

A MAN

cannot afford to go without an Overcoat—not if he wants to stay 'round here.

As a life preserver though, a Spring Overcoat is just as good as a heavy one.

We've got the best lot of them we ever had and they have begun putting them onto customers already.

Take it for granted, if you buy a Spring Overcoat your want it to fit you—something to look like the best custom garments with made-to-order air about it, but not to cost all creation.

If that's your idea of a Spring Overcoat, you'll find just what you want on our tables.

As to numbers we've twenty or more styles, in newest materials, with facings and without.

Cost—some as little as $5.00, $6.00 and $8.00; with pleaty of better ones from $10.00 to $20.00.

SPECIAL!

We are closing out our Winter Overcoats and Ulsters regardless of cost. Only two weeks more and then the balance, if there are any left, go into the camphor box.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

GOSSIP AND HIT-CHAT.

Some of the most prominent theatrical stars today owe their present position to experience gained in the humbler ranks of variety or vaudeville performances. Lotta, "Fritz" Emmet and Joe Murphy of "Kerry Gow" fame were specialty performers, and did their "turn" in the same company over a score of years ago. Evans and Hoey, of "Parlor Match" fame, recently seen here, are comparatively recent deserters from the variety stage, but have already amassed snug fortunes. Jimmie Powers, now starring with good success in "A Straight Tip," stepped from the variety stage to comic opera several years ago, and is now on the high road to fortune, while Francis Wilson, once a vaudeville performer, now holds first place as the grand mogul of comic opera. Dixey, who has made a fortune with his "Adonis," once figured as the hind legs of the heifer in "Evangeline," while Dick Golden who was seen here earlier in the season as "Old Jed Prouty," and whose features adorn the wall of the lobby at the Academy of Music, did similar service at the hind legs of that ancient quadruped. Lillian Russell sang in a variety theatre before taking to comic opera and $50,000 a year, and Den Thompson used to do 20 minute sketches long before "Josh Whitcomb" and "The Old Homestead" brought him fame and fortune.

Two churches in Brooklyn, one a Baptist church, have instituted an entirely new departure in the way of church amusements. Christ church in the eastern district and the Washington Avenue Baptist church, to use both their names have organized club houses with billiard tables, and other accessories to be found in a regular club house, except a bar, or as it is called in more elegant, terms a cafe. Unquestionably this is a very long jump for churches to make into the "wicked world" and is a step that cannot be taken in some parts of staid New England for years to come. But why isn't it right? In words of the Brooklyn *Standard-Union:* "Why not keep the young men in such organizations, instead of allowing them to wander into places where they will be led into temptation? Church members used to be horrified at the idea of the young people playing billards, and to play cards was to make a clear surrender to the world, the flesh, and the devil. Religious people are now becoming more sensible. They see that these things are only evil as you make evil of them, while, on the other hand, they serve good purpose in affording rational amusement for the youth in the city, whose opportunities for amusement are none too numerous. The increase in the number of church clubs for the promotion of social growth among the young people is an unmistakable sign of nineteenth century advancement.—[Holyoke Transcript.

"I want stone steps to this house," said a lady to a well known architect the other day, as they were discussing the plans of a new house up in the west end.

"Yes, ma'am," said the architect; "but stone steps are dangerous in the winter time."

"I don't care. The woman next door has stone steps to her house, and I'm going to have them too."

"But, madam, the lady you refer to broke a leg only the other day in going down those steps."

"That's nothing. I'll break two of 'em before I'd let her crow over me. You just figure on stone steps for this house, and never mind the consequences."—[Ex.

Chamberlain,

Huntress & Co.

N N
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W
CARPETS
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N N
ALL DESIGNS

SPRING OPENING

PRICES LOW

Selection cannot be surpassed

Call and examine

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

AMERICAN RAMBLER

We guarantee this machine and *warrant* it for one year. *Terms easy.*

EXAMINE IT IN OUR WINDOW.

A. B. LAWRENCE & CO.

216 MAIN STREET.

YOU CAN FIND
AT THE
SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Very nice Sliced Dried Apples, Canned Apples, Dates, Prunes, Prunelles, Apricots, Mince Meat, and pie stock of all kinds, Shaker Apple Sauce, choice Creamery Butter in 3½, 5, 10 and 20 lbs. packages, Plymouth Rock Gelatine, white and pink, mixed and plain Pickles in bulk, Malt Vinegar for table use, Huckins' Soups, Bottled Goods in large variety, Scotch Green Peas, early cooked and almost equal to fresh picked, Oranges, Lemons, Fresh Eggs, Sweet Potatoes, Pop Corn, &c.

PERLEY HOLMES.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

All the New Styles
—IN—
STIFF HATS
FOR THE SPRING TRADE.

NEW NECKWEAR!

BEST QUALITIES.
LOWEST PRICES.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

LORIN HOSLEY,
BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.
Blank Books Made to Order.
Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.
360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

Gossip and Hit-Chat.

The Lynn *Item* notes that "The $pring bonnet will $oon blo$$om." Ye$, the fond father$, husband$ and milliner$ realize thi$.

Gen. Butler promises that there "will be fun all round" when his memoirs are completed. Ben is getting old enough to be serious.—[Providence Critic. Lord love you *Critic*, Ben can't be serious.

Alas, for the insincerity of some people! We see it stated thusly: "A cheap way of entertaining is to issue invitations and then recall them because of illness or what not in the family." But the idea of hospitality is conveyed all the same.

The sombre Lenten days are here; the dress suit and decollete are not so numerous just now, but, as fireworks are said to come to very bad people after a shuffling off of this mortal coil, so the darling Easter bonnet, as a harbinger of spring, will soon bloom upon us in all the glory of "fuss and feathers."—[Ex.

The New York *Herald* tells the following story of an impecunious young fellow who sought the hand of a rich man's daughter: "What did papa say?" "He showed me the door." "What did you say?" "I said it was a handsome door but not what I had come to talk about. That made him laugh and a minute later you were mine."

The New York *Mail* and *Express* reports and comments on Dr. John Hall's form of marriage service, declaring that it is a model, and superior to the Episcopalian form, which it accuses of making the bridegroom tell a "fib"—the promise to "endow" the bride with "*all* his worldly goods," and also for praying that the pair may be like Isaac and Rebekah, whose home was an unhappy one.

At a recent wedding in Baltimore, there was one of the most unique electrical displays ever witnessed, and if there is any rich man in Fitchburg who is contemplating marrage, he could reproduce the display here, to the great satisfaction of his guests. Mr. A. H. Kimball or any other man prominent in the electrical business, could probably make it a success. On the occasion spoken of, as soon as the guests were seated a flood of light burst upon them from vari-colored incandescent lamps, hidden among the decorations and suspended above the tables. The bride and groom were hailed by the automatic ringing of electrical bells and the playing of electrical musical instruments. When the first course was finished the room was plunged into semi-darkness for an instant, and then from the floral decorations upon the table there glowed tiny electric lamps. The flowers and the interior of the translucent vases they filled scintillated with flashes of light, producing a charming effect. A little later a miniature electric lamp attached to the bride's hair shone brightly, and a toast was given which was concluded with an injunction to be temperate in all things. As the speaker finished two serpents slowly uncoiled themselves and issued from the wine bottle that stood before the bridal couple. Cigars were lighted by an electrical lighter, and the speeches were liberally applauded by an electrical kettle drum.

Here is a new hint for our politicians. One "Willie C. Gurney" of Whitman wanted a re-election as member of the board of health. According to the Whitman *Reporter* he conducted a personal canvass, sending out to voters the following letter, accompanied in each case by a Cuba de Cabbage cigar: I trust you will accept this cigar, not to influence you in the least but as a token of esteem. If you see fit to assist me to a re-election on the board of health, I should esteem it a personal favor. If you do not send back my cigar. Willie C. Gurney. Willie got there.

EUGENE F. STONE.
CARRIAGE PAINTER,
BETWEEN
BROOK AND VINE STS.
Entrance on Vine St.

FOR LUMBER
Call at yard of
C. A. PRIEST LUMBER COMPANY,
45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.
If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

Coleman & Drury,
Invite you to trade with them.
Because they carry the largest assortment.
Because they sell the best quality of goods.
Because their prices are reasonable.
Because their trade is large, which obliges them to buy often, insuring their customers goods that are always fresh.
Because our store is centrally located with entrances on two streets.
Because we have plenty of help and give prompt service, and
Because we give our business our personal and constant attention. Come in and see us.
COLEMAN & DRURY,
138 MAIN STREET.

DO YOU USE A
RUBBER STAMP?
IF NOT, WHY NOT?
Do you know how much valuable time you can save by the use of a Rubber Stamp?
We can furnish anything in the stamp line that is made and meet any prices of first-class manufacturers.
We warrant all our work.
SECRET SOCIETY GOODS,
RIBBON BADGES for all occasions.
STENCILS AND STEEL DIES.
FITCHBURG RUBBER STAMP WORKS,
190 1-2 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

COAL.
ALL GRADES AND SIZES.
REMEMBER,
25 c. per Ton Off
FOR SPOT CASH.
Now is the time to place your winter orders with
Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,
23 WATER STREET.

M. W. CUMMINGS,
Undertaker & Embalmer.
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
COFFINS, CASKETS, AND FUNERAL FURNISHINGS.
ROOMS AT 211 MAIN STREET.
RESIDENCE, 76 LAUREL ST.
Chairs to let for Funerals and other occasions.
TELEPHONE.
211 Main St., - - - FITCHBURG, MASS

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

"Listen to my tale of woe" would make a good song for a party of local fishermen to sing. A little while ago a small party of Fitchburgers went fishing. Shirley was the objective point. Before going further it should be stated that these fishermen were strictly temperance men and that there is proof they did not carry anything of an intoxicating nature with them. On the way to Shirley the horse became suddenly and unaccountably lame. On arrival at the pond they found the ice around the edges was very poor, but good in the centre. After going around two or three times they found an apparently solid place and went on but soon found themselves up to the waist in the water. Getting out they returned ashore and built a fire in an old cabin and dried themselves out. They then took some boards and laid them on the poor ice and thus got on to the solid ice. Then next dug holes in the ice but on repairing to the basket found they had forgotten to put in their lines. Determined to fish, however, they went off and borrowed lines and after a long, cold, weary wait caught two little fishes. On returning at night the horse was as lame as before until within gun shot of home when he braced up and went like the wind. It is rumored that the party intends to publish a soliloquy entitled "Fisherman's Luck at Shirley."

The event of the season! Such will be the verdict of all who attend the 3rd annual ball of Court City of Fitchburg at city hall, Easter Monday evening, March 30. The Eastman Orchestra of Manchester, N. H., has been secured for the occasion, and the reputation it has made leaves no doubt that the patrons of the ball, both lovers of dancing and those who attend merely to hear the concert, will be well pleased. The hall will be decorated by Col. Beals of Boston, and Caterer James of Waltham will furnish supper in the Hall over the stage; an innovation that will no doubt commend itself to all.

Post 19 Thespians have almost completed the arrangements for the presentation of "The Drummer Boy." The Post's advertisement will be found in another column. The play has five acts and each one terminates with a grand tableau. The play opens on a farmhouse scene with the family at breakfast. A quarrel begins with the host and his family and his guest and family over their Northern and Southern sentiments. The quarrel forms an interesting point all through the play. The piece is well written and full of interesting and stirring events. The cast is a good one for amateurs and the play will doubtless be well presented.

On Tuesday evening a very pretty and affecting drama entitled "The Drunkard" or "The Fallen Saved" will be presented by St. Bernard's T. A. Society, at the opera house. The society has put in a good deal of time and hard work preparing the play and will, no doubt, give a very enjoyable and creditable performance. The cast includes several well known ladies and gentlemen and we hope they will be encouraged by a crowded house.

CORRESPONDENT WANTED.

Must be able to write a bright, chatty letter, from Leominster lady preferred. Address TOWN TALK.

To Dress Well

IS ECONOMY.

Well-made, perfect-fitting garments are not only pleasing to the eye but are much more serviceable than cheap and poorly fitting garments and therefore cost less in the long run.

We are fully alive to the fact and we are prepared to show our customers the best possible values for their money.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

COAL LACKAWANNA. CHESTNUT. $7 PER TON.

HARD. SOFT. WOOD

8 Baskets Best Hard Wood, $1.00
10 " Mixed " " 1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord, 5.50
Soft Wood, " 3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord, . . . 4.50
Splints, per bunch, ...05

F. H. ARNOLD,
16 HARWOOD PLACE.

CHAS. E. KIRBY,
AGENT,
TRAVELERS LIFE AND ACCIDENT
INS. CO. of Hartford,
AND DEALER IN HIGH GRADE
INVESTMENT SECURITIES.

162 Main St., room 2.

BUY YOUR
FRUIT and
PROVISIONS
—AT—
CENTRAL MARKET,
—AND—
GET THE BEST.

SPECIAL SALE,
SATURDAY, MAR. 14,
—AT—
The Boston Shoe Store!

569 Pairs Ladies' Bright Dongola Button Boots, Opera and Common Sense, sizes 2½ to 7, widths B to E, $1.75.

These Boots cannot be duplicated elsewhere for less than $2.50. Ladies who have been troubled in getting fitted in Boots of this price will find no difficulty in getting fitted at our store.

24 Pairs Men's Patent Leather Lace Shoes, $2.40.

Regular price, $3.50.

Men's Storm King Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.70.

Men's Woonsocket Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.35.

Men's Woonsocket Pure Gum Rubber Boots, $2.75
Ladies' First Quality Rubber Boots, 1.35
Ladies' Plain Croquet Rubbers, .25
Ladies' Storm Rubbers, .45
Men's Imt. Sandals, Boston First Quality, .50

BOSTON SHOE STORE.
182 Main Street, - - Fitchburg, Mass.

YOU ARE INVITED

to examine our

NEW SPRING STYLES

—IN—

SPRING OVERCOATS,

Suits and Pantaloons,

—ALSO—

The new blocks in Stiff Hats.

We have also a fine assortment of choice styles in Neckties.
Our spring stock is the finest we have ever had the pleasure of showing.
Don't miss seeing our new goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

ONE PRICE, SQUARE DEALING

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

CITY HALL,

March 24, 25 & 26.

THE DRUMMER BOY.

—BY—

POST 19, G. A. R.

Tickets, 25 & 35 cts.

For sale by members of the Post and at the stores of E. B. Macy, B. C. Hunt and H. J. Lacey.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

Levy's great American band comes to the opera house April 17.

Efforts are being made to organize a camp of the Sons of America in this city.

Miss Ruth D. Ingham has entered the office of Chipman & Philbrook as Bookkeeper and Cashier.

Assessment No. 23, Order of Ægis, falls due the 15th and should be paid today.

The Sons of St. George will go in for a good time in English fashion at G. A. R. hall, on April 23d.

Heard on the street—members of the Golden Grail are reminded that an assessment is due today.

The annual supper of Post 19, G. A. R. wil be given on Wednesday evening, at 8, o'clock at G. A. R. hall.

A. G. Newton & Co. of the Boston Shoe store announce something special for today. See adv. in another column.

Primrose & West's Minstrels, which holds the fort at the Boston theatre, Boston, next week, comes to this city on April 3.

S. E. Dickson & Son has opened the store under the Fitchburg hotel, recently occupied by Taylor the tailor, with a complete line of gent's furnishings.

D. H. Joel calls special attention this week to his Honduras Sarsaparilla, a home made preparation which is warranted to give satisfaction. See adv.

Leighton Bros. of Pepperell know a good place to get their work done and are patronizing Jennison, the plumber, and J. W. Ogden rubber, stamp maker, of this city.

The pictures of Herbert L. Chase and company in the comedy of "Babie," an adaption from the French, will shortly be on exhibition. The work is done by Howard.

Monday's *Sentinel* says: No. 48 of Town Talk's Pen Pictures, says No. 49 is no rag baby at shooting foxes. We know that. The sketch said he was a good parallel to a character *in* "Rag Baby." Guess they've been out fox hunting recently, Brother Harris.

Hon. William McKinley of Ohio has accepted an invitation by the Worcester Telegram to speak upon National issues at Mechanics' Hall, Worcester on Monday evening March 23, and courteous invitations heve been issued to newspaper men in this city. Mr. McKinley will have a distinguished audience no doubt.

COAL!

Lackawanna Stove and Chestnut,
$7.00.
Lackawanna Egg and Broken,
$6.75.
Lackawanna Pea,
$5.50.
Franklin Stove and Egg,
$8.50.
Franklin Chestnut,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS,

Office, 11 Day Street.

Telephone 218-2.

NOTHING LIKE

Honduras Sarsaparilla

—FOR A—

SPRING MEDICINE.

$.75 a bottle: 3 bottles for $2.00.

Prepared only by

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST. - 207 MAIN ST.

JUST RECEIVED!

The following latest styles of frizzes, Nadjy, $1.75, Patti, $2.50 and Peola, $3.00. These have the same effect as one's own hair cut and curled. Can guarantee these to be first-class in every respect.

I have on hand six dozen of new wrappers in dark and light, ranging in price from $.50 to $2.00.

AT THE

CITY HAIR STORE,

183 Main Street, Up Stairs.

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER.

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

Sara Bernhardt has occupied a suite of appartments at the Vendome during her Boston visit.

A new comedy by Mark Twain will be produced at the Union Square theatre on September 14, to run 15 weeks.

Mrs. Dion Boucicault has engaged Charles Frohman for the production of Gillette's new comedy, "Mr. Wilkinson's Widow."

The theatrical managers of Baltimore protest against the passing of a city ordinance taxing the playhouses $5 a day during the season.

In Greely, Col., recently, two ranchmen fought a duel in the lobby of the theatre during the play, and both were killed. The performance went on serenely.

"The Clemenceau Case" has proved such a financial success that now a dramatization of Albert Ross' nasty novel, "Thou Shalt Not," by Max Freeman is to be brought out in New York.

Denman Thompson recreates at Swansea, N. H., the scene of both his plays. When he is there he simply enjoys himself. He has built a church there, and has a mortgage on everything mortgageable in the town, for everybody "touches" Denman.

N. G. Goodwin, the popular comedian, is 33 years old. He made his first appearance on the stage of the Providence opera house, was seized with stage fright, and made his escape from the building. A few months later he tried it again, and was successful.

Quite a large number of Fitchburg ladies and gentlemen visited Boston this week to see Bernhardt. The "Divine Sarah" has played to $35,000 this week in Boston, and yet the *Record* says she is no fatter. What is the condition of her pocket book, dear *Record*?

The Lyceum is to be the name of Boston's new theatre. Rich Harris and Atkinson are to be the managers, and contracts have been made with Charles Frohman to furnish simultaneous productions there of all the new comedies brought out in New York. A strong stock company will be one feature of the new house, which will be dedicated, Sept. 21, with Belasco and De Mille's "Men and Women."

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

At the Hollis street theatre "Blue Jeans" has been drawing a large house. The play has had a five months' run in New York and will draw large houses wherever it goes on account of its realism and the excellent singing of the quartette. The saw mill scene is just real and dangerous enough to put every spectator into a state of delightful expectation and uncertainty. By the way, Fitchburg is said to be more than passingly interested in this piece as a Simonds' saw is used.

At the Boston theatre the beautiful Swedish dialect play "Yon Yonson" has been drawing very good houses. The play follows the usual plot of the melodrama but has several varieties to it which make it a very enjoyable performance. The staging of the play is very fine and the river scene is simply grand. The piece comes here next Thursday. It is not a large spectacular piece and ought to be fairly well handled here. Next week Primrose & West's mistrels.

U and I at the Globe theatre a comical sketch of city flat life has made everybody laugh and applaud. The piece while far from being new is nonsensical enough to please and therefore draws large crowds. Those who enjoy such plays will find Gus Williams and John T. Kelly all that can be desired. Next week Joseph Murphy.

At the Park theatre Ship Ahoy runs two weeks more. Several new features have been added and the play is even more popular than it was two months ago. Its success is truly remarkable.

At the Boston Museum "Sunlight and Shadow" with a superb cast and brilliant scenic effects is winning universal praise and commendation. All the Boston papers speak well of it and predict a long run for it.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Tuesday evening Cleveland's Minstrels gave an excellent performance before one of the largest houses of the season. The enthusiastic reception the performers received proved that this form of entertainment when given in good style is still appreciated and enjoyed by the average play-goer. The entertainment was so evenly balanced all through that it would be unfair to select any feature for special mention except the Japs. The troupe was remarkably clever and alone worth the price of admission. Come again Cleveland.

"Yon Yonson" is the attraction for Thursday next. This is a capital play and while of a spectacular nature and showing to the best advantage on a large stage, a personal visit to the performance in Boston leads the writer to believe that it can be staged to good advantage here and will be well worth a visit. Gus Heege as "Yon" takes his part remarkably well.

OPERA HOUSE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17,

THE DRUNKARD

THURSDAY, MARCH 19,

YON YONSON.

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This last storm was almost too much for a poor raven and I happened to catch a good share of it. I got so wet and cold that I could hardly fly from one place to another and that set me to thinking. I thought first about the poor school children who turn out to go to school, sometimes only to find that the number present is so small that there will be no session and that means a tramp home again all for nothing. Now, I would suggest that a school signal be adopted to be under the immediate supervision of the superintendent of schools. Such signals are adopted in many cities and are of great advantage. In the cities I refer to a steam whistle is blown or the fire alarm telegraph is used. With our present system of fire alarm telegraph this could easily be done and it would be something every parent would appreciate on stormy days. If authority to use the wire for this purpose on stormy days were vested in the superintendent when, in his judgement it was wise to defer the sessions, both scholars and teachers would be benefited, and in the course of a year many useless journeys would be saved and the number of sessions would be just as numerous as now if not more so. I hope the school committee will take the matter in hand. I feel satisfied the suggestion is worthy of their consideration even if it comes from a poor raven.

In connection with the school there is another thing I would refer to, but I hope the parents will not be angry as I do it not for the sake of croaking, but for the interests of the pupils, the schools and teachers. It often happens that when anything special is coming off in the evening and to which the children are going, large numbers will ask to be excused at different times between the hours of two and half past three. Sometimes the number asking to leave before the appointed hour is so large that it practically destroys the session. This was the case two or three times last week, and what with the thin attendance on account of the storm and this cause, the sessions last week were considerably marred. When a dozen or 15 pupils ask, or present letters from their parents asking to be excused for the purpose of attending different gatherings, it cannot help but have a bad effect on the remainder and the teacher must be above the average mortal if it does not have a depressing effect on him or her. This is only a raven's hint, but a little reflection will prove that there is some truth in what I say. Ask any teacher if this is not so and you will find that I am not a very much mistaken bird in this instance.

"Roes," said a citizen to me a few days since, "what do you think the city needs most?" "Well," I replied, "in the first place we want three or four new school houses. Then we want Main street repaved from Blossom street to city hall. We also want some city public baths, electricity instead of horses for our street railway, and all the overhead signs removed. We also need several new electric lights on some of our darkest streets and more office accommodation in city hall. A new police station also would be more in keeping with the dignity of a city like this and a new bridge on Putnam street would not be any detriment. We also ought to have a little more agitation about that *Market Day* and a few more Endowment and Bond Orders introduced. Oh, yes, there are a few other things we need, but these are most important," I looked down from my perch to see what effect I had made on this citizen, but all I could see was a retreating figure about half way down the street and I concluded that my "want column" had exhausted my hearer's appropriation so I flew off to my nest.

I judge from the Sunday *Globe* that the common council, or a portion of it, contemplates blocking legislation unless the aldermen say how many licenses they intend to grant and unless nearly all the 22 allowed are granted. The members of the common council in the first place have nothing to do with the granting of licenses and will do well to carefully consider their position before committing themselves to a policy of obstruction. If the lower body so far forgets itself as to block the necessary steps for the paving of Main street, instead of doing that body any good it will do it harm, because among the majority of the business men and citizens this long delayed work and much needed improvement is imperatively demanded. The money required to do the work is not a great burden to place on the city's shoulders because this year the present water debt will be lessened by the payment of $200,000 and the remaining $100,000 will be placed at 4 per cent. instead of 6 per cent. which means a saving of 6 per cent. interest on $200,000 amounting to $12000 and a saving of $2000 on the remaining $100,000 of debt thus making a saving of $14,000 to the city next year. The bonds to be issued, which will be coupon bonds, are payable in ten years at $2000 per year which makes an average cost to the city of about $2,500 per year. Again in 1893 the general debt will be reduced about $200,000 which will mean a further saving in interest of $12,000 per year to the city. It is to be hoped that the finance committee will strongly recommend the passage of the order and the completion of the work. It is true there is a great opportunity to delay the work for months by sharp parliamentary taeties, but those who have the best interests of the city at heart will not approve of such course and any attempt by the license men to block matters will probably result next year in a "No" vote with a very big N. It is no use trying to cajole or force the present mayor, he is not that sort of a man. There has been a change. It could be done last year, but things are different this year.

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WHERE BREATHING IS EXPENSIVE.

NIAGARA HACKMAN: *One dollar!*
VISITOR: *What for?*
HACKMAN: *Information.*
VISITOR: *You haven't told me anything.*
HACKMAN: *Didn't you ask me what I'd charge t' drive you t' the Falls?*
VISITOR: *Yes; and you said five dollars, which is altogether too much.*
HACKMAN: *Well, d'ye suppose I'm goin' ter give away price-lists for nothin'? Ante!*

ELEVATING THE VALLEY.

"THE Prince of Wales can do anything. Even Nature has to give way before him."

"How so?"

"He never climbs a mountain without taking a valet up with him."

ACCOUNTED FOR IT.

RIPLEY: How Shorts laughed at Fogg's story a while ago. I didn't think it very funny.

WILKS: I didn't; but Shorts had just before borrowed five dollars from Fogg.

A REASON.

"THE boss has ordered all his men to shave."

"What reason does he give?"

"Says he never did like hair on his hands."

TRULY SO

"THERE is one thing about a dog's pants," said Harkins.

"What's that?"

"They never bag at the knees."

"DOES it pay to advertise?"

"Well," answered the owner of an advertising sheet, "I've made a million out of it."

COPPERING THE PREDICTIONS.

MRS. CUMSO: *Why, John, you are surely not going out without your umbrella? The signal service predicts rain.*
CUMSO: *Yes, my dear. Therefore I shall need no umbrella.*

A MAN OF MIGHT.

CUMSO: Speaking of strength, Jaysmith is a second Samson.

FANGLE: O, rats!

"It's a fact. You know how strong his breath is?"

"Yes."

"Well, he can hold that two whole minutes."

DENTISTS use laughing gas, but barbers still stick to the natural variety.

THE most pop-ular lady is the one who receives the most proposals, of course.

TAKING OFFENCE.

NOT WHAT SHE EXPECTED.

FANGLE: I saw your friend, Mrs. Jaysmith, get on the train and leave town with a married man this morning.

MRS. FANGLE (*deeply interested*): Well, I've been expecting a scandal in that quarter for some time. Who was it with, the shameless thing?

FANGLE: Her husband.

THE OLD MAN'S WARNING.

"AVOID whiskey and water, my son," said the fond father. "It is a dilution and a snare."

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

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MARCH 14, 1891.

Mayor Hibbard of Newton is making some important changes in the system of administering city affairs, especially in the street department. An old ledge which has furnished material of a poor nature for the streets has been abandoned and crushed stone will in future be provided by contract. The large force of men has been reduced to a mere handful and the streets will be laid out in sections and a man given a certain portion to keep in repair. This is something like the French system, "they do these things so much better in France," where a road is put into good shape and then turned over to an overseer who is responsible for its good condition. Another new move on Mayor Hibbard's part is to have all the blacksmithing for the city done by city employes at one shop centrally located. He also attends all committee meetings thereby becoming personally acquainted with all contemplated plans and assisting in formulating and perfecting them. In this way public service is expidited and a better feeling maintained among the City Fathers. The affairs of all cities will be vastly improved when party lines are abandoned in favor of men peculiarly adapted for the positions at disposal instead of first making the issue one of politics.

* * *

Sir Charles Dilke, the retired Liberal statesman of England, has decided to return to public life. Sir Charles was a member of Gladstone's last cabinet and was within sight of the premiership when his connection with the Crawford divorce suit drove him from office and public life. He is a man of great ability and recognized by all parties as one of England's ablest politicians. If Mr. Parnell is to continue in politics, and the indications are that he will in defiance of all opposition, why should not Sir Charles return. His services have been lost to his country although there is every reason for believing that he is not near so black as he has been painted. Politics make strange bed fellows and the fair sex plays havoc with political parties as well as with all other parties.

* * *

Another new departure is a change in the popular form of graduation exercises. Instead of having the usual exercises consisting of essays etc. by members of the graduation class and music by an orchestra, the Woburn school committee has voted to substitute a speaker of prominence and have musical exercises by the graduating class instead of an orchestra. How this change will work remains to be seen, but we have some doubts as to its becoming very popular. One of the reasons assigned for the change is that the rivalry among the pupils causes great expense in dress and somewhat embarrasses poor pupils and their parents which no doubt is in a measure true. We are inclined to think, however, that the parents will continue to bear the expense for some time yet in order to see their boys and girls show their abilities to the public.

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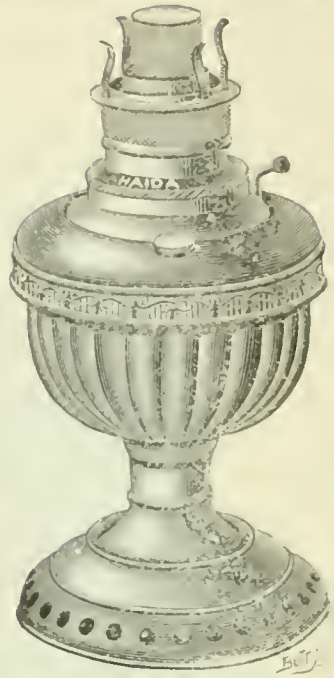

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We hope to make the spring of 1891 better than the last, and if *good goods, good work, with low prices* will do it, *we shall have it.*

Everybody reads Town Talk from *beginning to the end*, advertisements and all, so we can keep you posted.

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PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES

Last week's sketches pictured two well known citizens. No. 56 is Leander Sprague. No. 57 is Albert Hartwell.

In one of the most prominent places in the city is an office which is daily visited by persons of both sexes, persons of all ages and of every shade of temperament. The attaches of this office are supposed to be at all times polite and attentive and to serve the public with dispatch and kindness. Perhaps there is no other place within the city limits where there is a better chance of studying human nature than this office, for to it come persons who show themselves in their true colors and who seem to think they run the earth as well as others who realize that the rest of humanity have some rights in the world. If you do any knocking around town you probably know the place to which I allude and probably have noticed many an interesting little scene between the officials in the room and the gay and festive public outside. Sometimes, just at the last moment, may be seen hurrying to this office an individual whose make up at once stamps him as that lord of travel the drummer, who, with the characteristic swagger of his class, rolls his cigar from one side of his mouth to the other, hands out a little brass check and demands his "traps" dam'd lively. If the old man with the spectacles on, or either of the two younger officials do not produce said "traps" just as promptly as this customer desires he usually indulges in reflections of a satirical nature about one horse roads, queries as to what the co-operation wants to hire farmers for and other similiar observations all supposed to be the height of sarcasm. Then, if the drummer is further disposed to be frolicsome and has a minute to spare, follows a little tilt which the drummer appears to decidedly relish, and he goes away under the impression that he has worked his adversary up to the boiling point of excitement and finally cowed him. Perhaps after this comes an irritable customer who speaks in sharp cross tones and is answered almost likewise by the outraged official and the two arrive at no better understanding. Then comes a lady and she being in a little flutter is inclined to be impatient, but the officials being too well behaved to be sharp with a lady swallow their ire and gradually cool down until some one else upsets their equanimity. Sometimes when you visit this office try to remember that the official is almost pestered to death with silly questions and overbearing customers and that it may have something to do with any little want of respect or attention. You probably know the office alluded to.

No. 59 is a man of the solid description both in personal appearance and financial standing in the community. In dress he is neat and of good taste, is quiet and undemonstrative, yet with his apparent indifference to his surroundings he is a man of deep feeling, firm convictions and strong attachments. He is a man whose appearance denotes his character. His rounded form, clean shaved face, heavy eye brows, his deliberate and yet decisive manner stamps him as the man of experience in the world's ways, the shrewd financier and successful business man and the well-to-do prosperous citizen. He carries his years well for a man who has been engaged in active business for 40 years and few would take him to be within five or ten years of his age. His fellow citizens have had such confidence in his integrity and ability that he has been selected by them for councilman, member of legislature, trustee of the public library and city treasurer. In the latter position he served the city with fidelity and ability for nearly 17 years. With all his reserve he is a public spirited, genial, open handed and honorable man and in money matters the soul of honor. The city and its institutions have on several occasions been the recipients of his bounty. Do you know No. 59?

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THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

In 12 chapters.—Copyright, 1891. All rights reserved by the author.

CHAPTER VIII.

WHAT HAPPENED OVER THE DINING-ROOM.

So Black Tab, and the clock, and the buzzing, flickering lamp-light, and the door that opened without hands to open it, all have a significance. And henceforward, so long as Miss Pond shall live and so long as Barker and the generations of Barkerites which may follow shall live, all these things shall be portents of coming calamities. If a cat especially if her name be Black Tab—glares and arches her back and ruffles her tail without visible cause, then something dire will happen in that household. As for a clock stopping, that has always been a bad sign And if a lamp persists in buzzing and popping, and then goes out from a breath which is not blown from visible lips; or a door, which usually stays shut and behaves with the dignity which belongs to inanimate things in general, opens without material hands to open it then these things also have a direful meaning.

Left to herself, Black Tab sniffs at the dining-room door to her heart's content; and when she hears hurried footsteps in the other rooms footsteps that come into the dining-room and then out again— she ruffles her tail and spits and glares with renewed malignance.

But this time she is not driven away. So she crouches at the threshold and sniffs and licks her chops, listening with one pointed ear bent forward and the other turned back, alternating so as to catch all the sounds. And she hears the hurrying feet go up the stairs; hears them tramp heavily from room to room above; hears doors open and close, and voices speak to each other in sharp, startled tones; and, though only a cat, she knows that something has happened in the room over the the dining-room.

Probably Black Tab does not ponder the matter very deeply, though cats of her complexion have a reputation for viciousness and intelligence above that of buff cats or maltese cats, or cats of whatsoever color and breed of which the world ever knew.

Under such conditions Black Tab is supremely happy. For a whole hour she is undisturbed in her domain, and she can listen and listen, with one ear pointing forward, and the other ear turned back, and sniff and lick her chops. The hurrying feet in every part of the house do not trouble her so long as none of them come into the kitchen. and when she hears a clattering of horses' feet out in the big barn, and a rumble of wheels driven out of the yard, the sounds mean no more to her than they do at the other times when she has heard them.

Just when the human inmates of the dwelling are most excited Black Tab becomes calm. She falls back into her accustomed state of domestic docility, and even composes herself to a doze on the mat by the stove, where she blinks sleepily at the lamp, which now burns in a decent manner, and nestles her pink nose betwixt her white fore-feet, and purrs to show the full measure of her contentment.

She hears the wheels rattle out of the yard and rumble away down the road, and knows that somebody has driven away. Then in a little while there is a rumble which approaches until it becomes a rattle of wheels again, which ceases at the rear door. Then there are voices which Black Tab has heard before, although they do not all belong to the Warfield house hold.

One is a voice that causes Black Tab to cease purring and to lift her head and glare her yellow eyes again. She has not forgotten Barker's rough handling. The other—or one of the others, for these turn out to be three—is that of Mr. Jarvis, the neighbor who drove Edward Warfield over from the Fitchburg station.

Jarvis is talkeng in a loud voice, as is his habit, acquired probably by the necessity of speaking loudly at home since two or three members of his family are deaf; and Barker is trying to put in a few details of his evening's experience in the kitchen; and the third person says nothing but follows them in at the porch door, and up the carpeted stairs and along the corridor to the room over the dining-room.

Here they all hesitate, the third person stopping to pull off his gloves and take a pinch of snuff, and then to pucker his lips as he has a habit of doing, as though he were going to whistle a tune.

"He's in there doctor," declares Barker in a whisper, "and the rest of 'em are in there with him. I hope ye'll be able to do suthin' to bring him out of it. But I've got to go after a constable. I expect somebody'll have to be arrested though I don't know who."

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With this Barker goes down stairs again and Black Tab hears the wheels rattle out of the yard and rumble down the road.

Doctor Tripp opens the door and goes bravely in, while Jarvis tiptoes after him. They find that the room has no carpet, and that its furnishings are serverely plain. It is a somewhat unused room, this one over the dining-room, and yet a bed is always kept made up in it to be used in an emergency. And there is every indication of the long delayed emergency having arrived.

Doctor Tripp goes up to the bed and James Warfield steps back. Saadi and Mr. Fenlow stand upon the other side, and if anybody were in a condition of mind to notice anybody else's feelings, it might be noticed that Saadi's eyes are red with weeping, and that her strong face has undergone a most marked change of expression. It is as though something that was there before has left it and something which was not there has come to fill the vacant place.

But it is to the face of the man on the bed that Dr Tripp directs his eyes, and it is such a white face that he at first thinks that all he will have to do will be to fill out a certificate of death, and that he will at least escape the charge of not having done as well for his patient as Doctor Jones or Doctor Smith could have done had they been called instead. For Doctor Tripp certainly cannot be excelled in the making out of these necessary documents.

Not a word is spoken while the doctor adjusts his glasses and peers into the white face on the bed, and then pulls down the clothes so as to see a bandage on the white throat; and then pulls open the shirt, which has already been hastily torn by ministering hands; and then lightly pushes up one of the closed eyelids so that he can see the iris underneath; and then as a final test, which might as well have been tried first if it were not for the necessity of showing off all the expedients to which a medical man may resort, he leans over and presses his ear over where the hearts of living men are accustomed to pulsate.

Doctor Tripp listens and listens. If he hears anything he seems to be in doubt about it. And when he finally raises his head and glances at each of the still faces around the bed his glance tells them nothing. And he proceeds to replace the bed clothes, and then to open his medicine trunk with the evident intention of doing something. Whether that intention be the extinguishment of the faint spark of life in the silent form on the bed, or an attempt to kindle a real flicker from that spark he does not declare by word or sign to the anxious watchers.

"Well, Doctor?" ventures James Warfield whose voice in that still room has a rather startling sound.

"A great degree of exhaustion," vouchsafes Doctor Tripp.

"Then he is living?"

"Oh, yes." As though the wise doctor had never had a doubt of it from the moment of coming into the room.

"A teaspoon, please" he adds with a look at Saadi through his glasses. And she is stopped at the threshold with—"and a tumbler and a little water, and better fetch a wineglass." He glances searchingly around the room while Saadi hesitates and adds: "and some linen for bandages and a basin of warm water and a lump of ice if you please. That is all."

Saadi flies softly from the room and finds Miss Pond, who stares at her with open mouth and the husky query:

"Is—is he alive?"

"Yes. And you must help me carry up the things which the doctor wants. We must do everything, Miss Pond. The doctor does'nt say, but I think he may live."

"Thank goodness," says Miss Pond, with a great sigh of relief.

"Now I can go through the dinin'-room 'thout feelin' so crawlly, for blood from a livin' man ain't like blood from a dead man, even if it *is* an assasins' knife that spilt it."

Doctor Tripp works very methodically, administering a few drops of stimulant with the teaspoon, and then examining the wound, and scowling and puckering his lips, and snipping off a little ragged skin with his scissors, and pressing together the gaping cut, and putting on the ice and the bandages so swiftly that those watching him are made to wonder in the midst of their anxiety at his skill.

Then more of the stimulant is given, and the effect watched. There is effect, though nobody but Doctor Tripp notices it.

He looks from one to another of the anxious faces and says:

"Voluntary deglutition!"

But for the tone of encouragement this would sound like rather a startling symptom, to the layman. James and Mr. Fenlow of course understand that the still form on the bed swallows the liquid consciously.

More and more of the diluted stimulant is given, and the white lips open at the touch of the teaspoon. Once the eyilids flutter and are lifted, but it is extremely doubtful if the eyes see anything. And now Doctor Tripp condescends to break the spell of suspense and to turn to James with an encouraging nod.

"The gentleman is your brother?" he

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
LAMP.

JENNISON, THE PLUMBER.

SOLE AGENT

MAGEE MYSTIC.

T. J. SULLIVAN, Mangr. Sheet Iron Dept.
CHAS. SMITH, Mangr. Plumbing Dept

asks, as he takes off his spectacles and squints his eyes while he wipes them and then puts them back on again.

"Yes, my brother Ned. You wern't in town when he was home with me and the old folks were alive. But, Doctor, *is* there a chance? Speak plainly, because this affair is a serious one"

"I think so," declares Doctor Tripp. "He appears to be a vigorous man but he has lost a great deal of blood. He must have lain a good while after the—the hurt. But—as I said, he is vigorous and may pull through. *But*, Mr. Warfield" and Doctor Tripp lowers his voice, "how did it happen? He *may* die."

"We don't know," James Warfield answers.

"I supose not, yet. But the young man that came after me—and Mr. Jarvis here who was with him when he got to my horse, were saying that you had sent for a constable. According to that I inferred that—er—there might be somebody under suspicion."

Doctor Tripp looks over to Mr. Fenlow as he says this, with the most innocent intention, it is true, yet to Jarvis the glance has significance and he looks at Mr. Fenlow, which as a matter of course prompts Saadi and James Warfield to look at the same individual. And it occurs to the latter at the same time that this mysterious guest of his, after helping place the injured man on the bed, has hardly stirred from the position then assumed.

"There is no person under suspicion—at least, no one that we have seen. There were peculiar circumstances, Doctor."

"Peculiar circumstances—yes," repeats Doctor Tripp. And after a pause he adds:

"And I suppose, as a matter of fact, if your brother receives a wound with a knife or other sharp instrument, as it is evident he has done, some person must have inflicted it. For of course you don't suspect that your brother—but no, of course not. I wouldn't suggest it."

"What were you about to suggest? It is all a profound mystery to the rest of us, doctor. Unless my brother recovers so as to be able to give an account of the matter it will be a case for a detective. I know of no living person who could wish to strike such a cowardly blow at Ned. He may have had enemies—all of us do—but they couldn't have hated him like that."

"That's it, exactly." Doctor Tripp shrugs his shoulders and glances at the floor where a strip of carpeting has been thrown down to cover something up. Barker has told him of his experience and of Black Tab's actions in the room below, and he instantly divines what it is that the piece of carpet hides. Not that that impresses him greatly, for he sees so much of it, only it is the way in which it all happened. It is not yet a murder in that room but it may turn out to be one before the day has passed, and it is very tragical as it is, and consequently every detail is of interest.

"We thought we would put him on this bed rather than carry him to his room, he seemed to be so exhausted," James explains.

"A wise course. And don't disturb him tonight," says Doctor Tripp.

He returns to his patient, and after looking at him administers more of the stimulant.

"He revives slowly, but he is reviving. He must not lack attention. If he can only be brought to that degree of consciousness to enable him to speak coherently of matters, then he will of course be able to give an account of the way in which he received the injury. But, really, I would not wish to suppose it to have been an attempt to kill by an enemy if there were any other possible explanation. And I suppose that there is but one other."

"What is it Doctor?"

"Why—er—self-destruction—suicide—under temporary aberration of the mind, you know. It is more frequent than you would suppose, Mr. Warfield. We medical men are in a position to—"

"It isn't that," says James, decisively.

You understand the mental peculiarities—the predilections, I should say— of the patient better than I do, of course. It was only a suggestion, on my part. We medical men are in a position to know of more of such occurences than the people at large dream of. We cannot betray confidences. You would be surprised if I were to hint to to you concerning what comes frequently under my observation in the course of an—er—if I may say it—extensive practice."

Doctor Tripp likes to talk. His vocabulary is so rich in those words which the common run of mankind have little use for, that he cannot refrain from rolling out the syllables.

Mr. Fenlow comes around from behind the bed, where he has stood so long silent and approaches the doctor. His eyes glow with a strange light, but his movements are deliberate and noiseless as usual. He wears his black shawl which gives him the bat-like appearance and his face is pale in contrast.

"I think, Mr. Warfield," he says in his velvety tones, looking at James, "that it would be well to put Doctor Tripp in full possession of the circumstances. Whether your brother gets well or not—whether he be able or not to give an account of the dreadful, silent struggle which there is every sign of having transpired in this room—there will have to be a thorough investigation of the case. Someone tried to take his life. We heard no sound to tell us of what was going on; we know nor suspected nothing until we wondered that your brother did not appear. This, coupled with the fact that he came up stairs several hours ago for an avowed purpose, and also with the extraordinary experience of of my daughter and her request that he should not persist, makes a chain of circumstances with which every person connected with us at this time should be fully familiar. Doctor Tripp is a man of science and so am I. It is a matter for scientific investigation, and not for the superficial and blunt questioning of a constable or a detective. Not but that the latter must take the case in hand—but they will need every aid that we can give."

If Mr. Fenlow's silence has been prolonged he makes up for it now. Low and soft as his voice sounds there is an undercurrent of earnestness and force in it.

Saadi looks eagerly to the doctor to see how he receives her father's words.

It need not be stated that the discovery of Edward Warfield lying seemingly dead, the victim of a treacherous and murderous blow has been constantly and vividly con-

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nected in her mind with her vision of the afternoon. It is a terrible verification of her power of prophesy. It is a proof in opposition to her own belief and desire. It fills her with a fear of herself—a fear of the disclosures which this other self over which she has so little control may make.

"Ah," says Doctor Tripp with a some what searching scrutiny of Mr. Fenlow, from head to feet, "I believe I haven't the pleasure of knowing this gentleman?"

James introduces "this gentleman" who, however, only waits for a reply to his speech.

"I certainly have confidence in Doctor Tripp," says Warfield, "and if he cares for the details I will relate them, or you may do so."

"I am interested—deeply interested," declares Doctor Tripp. He goes back to his patient, gives more of the stimulant, watches the effect, and then comes back.

"How is he?" James asks. He has bent over the white face of his brother, and it seems to him that life is ebbing rather than gaining.

"Just the same," the doctor declares. "The pulse is perceptible in his wrists. Temperature very much reduced but there is a rise since I first arrived. It will be a fight and a delicate one, but we will do what we can. If you thought best I would be glad to consult with any medical man of your choosing. We could get one from Worcester or Boston in the morning."

"You had better send for whom you prefer," James replies.

Mr. Jarvis sees an opportunity to make himself useful and offers to act as messenger to the telegraph station at Fitchburg, and his proffer is accepted. The hushed voices in that room are depressing to him, and he hasn't dared to speak for fear that his voice might rise to its trumpet-pitch. It is utterly impossible for Jarvis to whisper without occasionally breaking into a vocal note which sounds like a bray.

Jarvis gets safely out of the room without once giving way to his shouting tendency. And now James briefly details the strange events which have preceded the tragical crisis, while Doctor Tripp nods and drops in a question now and then to show that his mind is of the proper scientific calibre; or comments in a telling word to show that he is not to be humbugged; and finally declares that the affair should be thoroughly and systematically investigated, which is precisely the conclusion which Mr. Fenlow and James Warfield have reached without the aid of Doctor Tripp's opinion.

"You have sent for a constable?" he asks after further attention to his patient.

"Yes. The authorities should be in possession of the facts so far as known."

"Eminently proper," declares Doctor Tripp. "And," he proceeds, "has a search of the house been made?"

Mr. Fenlow interposes.

"No. I advised otherwise, until the officer should arrive. The tragedy is the result of searching, and I would not allow Mr. Warfield to repeat the mistake. Besides, it is more important that the victim should receive every possible attention than that a fruitless search be made."

At this moment a knock sounds on the door. It is opened, and Barker stands there with a tall, sharp-eyed man behind him.

"Here is Constable Fales," Barker declares. And without more ado Constable Fales strides into the room in a very business-like fashion.

It presently turns out that Constable Fales is a very business-like individual.

(To be continued.)

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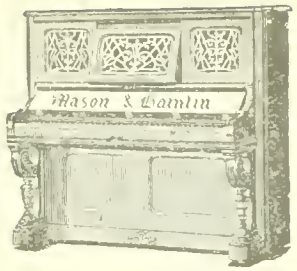

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EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

BOSTON, Mar. 13, 1891.

Fresh strawberries at $1 a box right from Florida. They were tempting, but with Bernhardt in town, we preferred to take our little greenback and buy a stand up seat and for luncheon indulge in the staple Boston fruit at from 10 to 25 cents a plate. Thus we live, move, and have our beans.

Well it has been a great week for Sunshine and Sarah! Bernhardt's welcome was a rouser. The Tremont theatre never contained such a glittering audience as greeted this artist on Monday night. The play was as vicious as ever and only a Bernhardt can lift such a drama out of and above the merely melodramatic and horrifying, and hold an audience enthralled by her genius. All jokes about her thinness are called in. Do you know, Sarah says the American men have got no poetry. Guess she never saw the inside of an editor's office: lots of poetry stacked up there. I also understood that S. B. studied the airs and expression of half-crazed women by going to a millinery store and watching them try to select a bonnet.

Your humble correspondent came near being "lost to sight, to memory dear" (?) the other day. Was caught between two snowslides and an electric. Pretty difficult to dodge some issues.

Two words made use of in the above paragraphs suggest a bright thing heard at the Press Club benefit. George Wilson, the minstrel, was asked why he was climbing a pole the day previous. He replied, "Well you know I am very fond of fruit, and I ventured up after some electric currants."

The green room at the State House has been the scene of a queer sort of controversy for several days, over the new act to establish registration of medical degrees. The "Irregulars" have been vigorously defended by many prominent people, including Rev. Minot J. Savage, Rabbi Schindler, Mrs. Abbie Morton Diaz. The audience was made up of a queer combination of aspirants for medical fame. There were disciples of prayer, and swear cures, electrical, faith, mind, massage, hypnotism and as many "isms" as there were branches of human science. The protest against the enactment is very sharp.

The well-known crockery firm of Abram French & Co. has at the solicitation of its employes incorporated their business into a stock Co., to be called, Abram French Co. Mr. Wm. T. Rowe, who has been connected with the house for so many years, and an extremely popular man, has been made a director. Mr. Rowe will still remain at the helm of the Hotel department, which will please his friends in New England, both in business and masonic circles.

Puck of March 4th contains an article on the number of things a woman can do with a hairpin. One thing the writer fails to tell us and that is how to retain them. Query—Where do all the pins and hairpins disappear to?

A concert will be given in music hall on the evening of March 16th for the benefit of the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. This charity is a most deserving one, and worthy an extensive patronage. Last year 15,000 patients were treated, 3,000 of these being children. The applicants are increasing so rapidly that additional room and facilities are greatly needed. The program is of rare merit for this concert. The Boston Symphony Orchestra will appear, assisted by Mrs. Nikisch. The Cecilia club will give Massonet's "Eve" with Clementine De Vere as one of the soloists.

Mr. Moody has been preaching "to women only." So there!

By sending 5 cents to Mr. Ellis, the Franklin St. publisher, you can obtain a copy of Mr. Savage's sermon in defence of the Sunday newspaper. Joseph Cook does not seem to know it all.

Galvin Bros. display of Easter lilies, in their recently enlarged establishment is one of the sights to see.

Gray hair is the very latest English fashion for women, young and old. Girls assume an age, if you have it not.

The free exhibition of water colors at Williams & Everetts ought to interest all ladies who paint. (pictures) They are from the brush of L. K. Harlow, S. R. Chaffee and Miss Goodyear. Foreign artists are represented, one picture in particular struck my fancy, showing a child at play with turkeys, a simple subject but perfectly executed. This is worth $1200. Another by Zogbaum, subject "Flag of Truce," valued at $500. These pictures and hundreds of others can be seen here for several weeks to come.

New York City has begun to raise money for a Sherman monument. A good city to raise money but the monotony would be varied if they would occasionally raise a monument.

At the James Russell Lowell Relief Corp fair, which netted Post 7 such a neat sum, Post Commander Geo. S. Evans took occasion to "do up" the man by the name of Quinn who got up in the Common Council and called our Veterans a set of "bums." Mr. Evans was not speaking for publication, but it would have done my patriotic friends good to have heard him. After all, men of the Quinn order are scarcely worth replying to.

At the theatres, we will have at the Boston Museum that sweet, touching play called "Sunlight and Shadow," in which George Wilson has a pathetic role, quite in contrast to the ones usually falling to him.

"Ship Ahoy" will be with us two weeks longer, only. The search light on the roof and the phonograph in the lobby are two good bits of advertising.

The Actors' Fund benefit will be a big affair next Thursday P. M. Agnes Booth comes from New York to Present "After Thoughts." A host of talent have volunteered.

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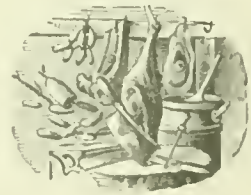

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WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That "spring openings" are now the order of the day, and we may now look for the usual spring crop of quack doctors.

That quite a number are going around declaring that "I dnever had sudch a coldt in my dlife." About every person so informed is a sympathizer and has a new remedy to suggest.

That if those who think they are enjoying themselves at the expense of the gate tender and his differences with the captain want any further information he is able to supply it and to take care of himself.

That the next municipal question of any importance will be the number of licenses that will be granted. This question is already causing a little speculation and some uneasiness.

That the amatenr Thespians seem to have suddenly discovered that they can do something in the amusement line and three different companies will soon try their skill before the public. They will be worth seeing.

That some of the passengers who came up on the theatre train Wednesday evening, were a little amused, perhaps a little annoyed, at the *labored* breathing of some of their fellow passengers. Near Concord the engine broke down and over an hour was lost in repairing it. During this time and the rest of the journey several passengers fell asleep and treated those awake to varions kinds of solos. Among them was a newspaper man whose efforts resembled a bad imitation of second rate trombone player. There were others equally bad or good but the passengers bore it meekly.

That the police still make a few raids. While a law and order league may be a good thing in Lowell we seem to be able to watch our law breakers without the league's aid.

That few towns can boast of a lady 100 years old, but Fitchburg can and this week her picture appears on our front page.

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MACY'S.

After reading the report of the last meeting of the school committee I thought a little more information on this point would do no harm and began to look around for another gentleman to interview. After looking the field over I determined to try Rev. F. O. Hall, simply because he is always so willing to aid a newspaper man, always expresses himself in a frank and honest manner and because he has previously deeply interested the readers of this paper. Mr. Hall received me with his usual kindness and in answer to my question replied, "Yes, I have something to say about the school question in the line of the report of the committee on private schools. Ever since I have had anything to do with the schools of our city and, I am told, for years before, the work of the School Board has been hampered by a false spirit of economy. For years the city has been cramped for sufficient school room."

"Hasn't the city been continually building new school houses?"

"Yes, but it has built just behind the demand instead of just ahead of it. The result is, of course that the work of the schools is continually cramped and hindered. And the amount that the city saves by this policy is pitiful. The school houses have to be built ultimately. It costs not a cent more to build them in ample season than it does to build them out of season and behind hand. At the very best all that the city saves is the interest on the cost of the buildings and the amount of the salaries of the teachers that it would take to man them. Take the West Fitchburg school. The new house will shortly be ready for occupancy. It would have cost no more to build two years ago and all the city has saved by its dilatoriness is the interest on the cost of the new house, and in saving this what have we lost? The work of the school has been upside down. We were obliged to use a skating rink, a basement room under a lot of stores, ill-ventilated, ill-lighted ill-arranged, good enough for its purpose, but not at all suited for a school building. Then it is nonsense to expect a teacher to do the best work under such conditions. We pay our teachers fair salaries to do the best work they can and then we place them under conditions that forbid them to do the best work they can. It is like hiring an efficient gardener at good wages to cultivate your field and then obliging him to do it with a crooked stick because, forsooth, you would now begin to economize and feel that you can not afford to buy a hoe for him; and then, to carry out the parallel, after he has wasted half his time for weeks poking about with the stick, going and buying the hoe after all. Such economy is not real, it is only a pretence But it is a pretence that spoils the highest efficiency of our schools and robs the boys and girls of the city of something better than gold. Procrastination seems to be the settled policy, and this not only with reference to one school but all, high and low. We are approaching a crisis in the high school. The building is crowded now to such an extent that work is hampered in every department, and this with a membership of 245. Next year we shall have over 300 pupils in our high school. What are we to do with them? Are we to expect that the high school building will enlarge like a balloon to let them in, or are we to pray for some Pied Piper to visit our city and entice our children into a great tomb in the heart of old Rollstone, in order that we may be freed from the disagreeable necessity of spending our dear dollars in enlarging our high school?"

"What is being done to meet this rapidly approaching emergency?"

"Nothing, absolutely nothing. The matter will be put off until the 300 children are clamoring at the doors, and then while they continue to clamor we shall take plenty of time to deliberate, months will be spent in devising ways and means and then long, long months will be spent in carrying out the plans and I have no doubt that three years from now the high school building will have been enlarged, but in the mean time every thing is up side down, the work of the school is hampered, the hands of the teachers are tied and nothing is as it ought to be. And what does it all amount to? The saving of a little money, nothing more. What we need to do is to make a rapid spurt and get ahead of the times and keep ahead, instead of behind. That would cost no more energy and no more money. Of course I understand that every administration wants to keep the expenses for that year down. 'Let us wait till next year before we spend money to enlarge the high school because next year I may be out of office and some one else will get the blame for being extravagant, or if I can keep in the good graces of the voters by a pretense of economy I may be elected to another term.' Of course this policy keeps the schools crowded all the way along. As fast as scholars enter at one end others must be crowded out of the other to make room The result is, promotions for space and not for merit. Many times children are sent to the high school not because they are fitted, but because there is no room in the grammar school for them. Batches are forced from one grade to a higher to make room while they are not ready for the move. Thus the whole graded system is disorganized. Now whose fault is it? Not the fault of the School Board for we do the best we can with what is given us. Nor does the fault lie *principally* with the city government for they are as dependent upon the citizens as we are upon them. The great blame lies with the people who are forever howling about extravagance and weeping over the high rate of taxation. If people want a thing they ought to be willing to pay for it. Our people want the best and wish to pay the least. They would keep their pudding and eat it too. We want better roads, we want better schools, but we do not want to pay for them. Let us look up the man who has discovered how to get something out of nothing and make him autocrat of Fitchburg. But we have reached the tax limit! That is an abominable law. We should be allowed to fix our own tax limit. But there are other things that we can do to raise money. I should be in favor of borrowing $100,000 if necessary to put schools where they belong."

"Is there no other way to remedy this state of things?"

"Yes, there is one other way out of the difficulty that no one seems to have had the courage to suggest. Let some one of our wealthy citizens give us a memorial high school. Let two or three or half a dozen club together and present the city with a high school building. That will relieve the pressure all along the line then the present high school building could be used for grammar school purposes. Why should not our rich men do this? They have not grown rich all alone, the humbler and poorer citizens have helped to build up the large fortunes that have come into the hands of these individuals. Individually and alone they could never have gotten such wealth. It does not belong to them exclusively. It is no more than just that they should share reasonably with the working people who have helped them on to fortune. Mr. Wallace has done this generously. Here is a way for others to do the same. Let me point out another way in which we economize extravagantly. A while ago I was called upon to visit a sick family. They were all sick, mother, father and children. The father was out of work a good share of the time and the doctor's bills grew apace. I investigated the causes and found that the cellar was a

cesspool on account of a disordered drain. The house was soaked in poison. I asked the family if they knew this. Yes, they knew it. 'Why don't you move into a better house?' They could not afford to move and they could not pay increased rent. They could not seem to understand that it would be the shrewdest sort of economy for them to get into conditions where the father could work all the time and the mother would be well and the children require no doctor. Ridiculous, wasn't it? But see how much wiser we are as a city. Two years ago the state inspector of public buildings pronounced the arrangements for ventilation in the Day street, the High street and the West Fitchburg grammar school 'wholly insufficient.' He found one room with 'no means of ventilation at all.' Has any thing been done about it? Nothing, because to have done anything would have cost money and swelled the expenses of the year's administration. The Superintendent has pointed out repeatedly that some of the rooms in these same buildings are so badly lighted that 'eyes of pupils are injured by attempting to study in these rooms.' Has any thing been done about that? Nothing, because to remedy this trouble would cost money. So the children are allowed to contract disease incident upon poor ventilation, and their eyes are injured for life by overstraining in insufficient light because we must at all cost save the city's money. What after all are human eyes and the health of our future citizens in comparison with the money we save. By all means let the eyes perish, let the children be carried to Laurel Hill, but let us save our money."

"With regard to the report of the committee on private schools?"

"The report of the committee on private schools had to do particularly with the Cleghorn district. There we have an excellent school house that is every thing that could be wished if it were only large enough, but the city instead of building large enough to provide for future growth erected a four room building and must now tear it to pieces at a great expense. A little wise foresight with a little brave extravagance would have made this unnecessary. And speaking about this particular district reminds me of certain things that we ought to begin to think about. I have been interested in studying this part of the city for some time and have become convinced that unless the School Board does more in that district it might as well do nothing at all. Can any one tell me what is the use of a person learning to read if he never reads? What intellectual, moral or physical advantage is it to a boy merely to know that c-a-t spells cat? I have heard it said as a criticism of schools at Hampden and Carlyle for the education of the Indian youth, that Indians are taught, for instance, to be tin-smiths and then sent back to the reservation where there is not a sheet of tin within 200 miles and where they straightway forget all they have been taught. We can see the absurdity of that. Well, can we not see the equal adsurdity of teaching a boy to read with great difficulty and then placing him on a 'reservation' where there are no books and absolutely no inducements to read whatever? I went through the stores in that district the other day and there is not a place where one can buy a scrap of reading matter as large as his hand. They tell me at the *Sentinel* and *Mail* offices that not more than two or three papers go into that district. I went into the school and catechised the scholars. About two thirds of them had no books and no papers at home, did not know what a library was, had never seen the Wallace Library and had never heard of the *Youth's Companion*, *Harpers Young People*, *Harpers Weekly* though one or two of them did seem to have some knowledge of the *Fireside Companion* and its high and ennobling class of literature. The query arose in my mind, are we spending thousands of dollars a year to educate the children of this district only in order that a very few may read such stuff as is to be found in the *Fireside Companion*? I went through the Parkhill mill and had a talk with the suprintendent. 'Can the children that you employ here read?' I asked. 'O, yes, after a fashion. The law does not permit me to employ one who can not.' 'But *do* they read?' 'No.' 'Is the education they have received in the public school of any advantage to them?' 'Not any that I can see. Many of them that are supposed to know how to read and write the English language can hardly understand the simplest order. And as for arithmetic they can not make use of the simplest rudiments without blunders. For that matter even the boys that have graduated from your grammar schools are not much better. I try dozens of these before I find one who can write an intelligible sentence or keep an intelligent account. But as for the people in this district reading, most of them can't read and more do not want to read, and that is all there is to it.' If this is the state of the case we might almost as well shut up the school for any good that we are doing. Now of course I do not advocate shutting the schools but I do advocate doing more in them. I would have the evening school continue there as a regular institution only I would have it run on altogether a novel plan. I would have boys' clubs and girls' clubs. I would have all sorts of educational games for them to play, geographical puzzles, word games and the like. I would have illustrated books and papers galore. I would not only teach them *how* to read, but I would teach them *to* read. The *Youth's Companion* in the hands of the boys of such a district would be a liberal education in itself. The object of the public school is to make intelligent citizens. We are not doing that now. We fall very, very far short of accomplishing this object in the Cleghorn district. We ought never to rest, above all we have no right to begin to economize until we feel that we are accomplishing that object, until we feel that these children are growing up into English speaking, English reading, intelligent men and women, capable of casting intelligent votes and living helpful lives. But I shall have overburdened you with material. I thank you for giving me the opportunity of expressing my opinions. I shall feel better for it. My judgment upon this whole matter is, nothing which helps on the higher life of the community is extravagant: nothing which retards in any way the growth of the higher life is to be called economy."

Our conversation was at an end and I hope the suggestions made by Mr. Hall may have a good and awakening effect. "If we only had a score more of such men as he the community would be a great deal better for it was one of the thoughts that came to PAUL PRY.

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[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

Several lodges issue pocket folders containing a list of the members, officers, committees, trustees, degree masters, degree nights, membership by degrees, the officers of the grand lodge, and other information very convenient to refer to.

The Golden Grail has distributed between $20,000 and $30,000 to eight commanderies in the South. Branches in New England are Paid off each week, and new commanderies organized.

At the last biennial session of the Supreme sitting of the Iron Hall at Indianapolis the following plan of life insurance division was established. Polices of $1000, $2000 or $3000 will be issued, non-forfeitable after three years, and self-supporting in 20 years. Social and beneficial members of the order may alike become members of the life division upon passing a medical examination, and upon the payment of a 50 cents certificate fee, 50 cents dues and the amount of one assessment. Assessments will be called on the 1st of every month, and for $1000 will range from 50 cents for persons 18 to 30 years of age, to $2.50 for 65, the maximum age that will be issued. The life fund and its accumulations shall be used only for the payment of death benefits. The life division will commence business as soon as 2000 applications are on file.

Sir Knight John O. Dickerson, for whom two hundred brother knights sacrificed a piece of their cuticle for the purpose of skin grafting, died at Chicago last week.

The Royal Ark paid off about 500 members in February and expects to pay 1300 members this month; each one receives $100 and it is expected that all will be paid without touching the reserve fund of $155,000 deposited with the state treasurer.

Boston has over 50 lodges of the Progressive Benefit Order and has in all 390 lodges. The Order was instituted in May 1890 and over 25000 certificates have been issued.

The call for March in the New England Order of Protection shows every death officially reported to have been paid, with a balance on hand of $270.15

Charles E. Allen has received $50 for two week's sickness from Garnet Lodge, Order of Ægis.

F. M. Patch has received $50 for two week's sickness from the Local Branch of Iron Hall.

On March 26, Wachusett Tribe of Leominster will give a peace dance in the town long house. Eastman's Orchestra will furnish music for the dances. Fitchburg Mandolin and Guitar club will also be present and give selections.

Aurora lodge, F. A. M., conferred the third degree, Monday evening, on one F. C. in the presence of a large gathering. Visitors from Leominster and Clinton were present and after the ceremonies speeches were made by D. D. Bartlett of Clinton and other prominent Masons from that town and Leominster. Messrs Tinsley and Edgerly of this city also spoke, the latter making one of his usual happy speeches. E. M. Reed furnished an excellent collation after the exercises.

ODD FELLOWS.

Treasurer Clarke of the Massachusetts Odd Fellows' home, reports that the donations to that institution amount, thus far, to over $70,000, including several pledges for furnishing rooms.

The Portsmith *Times* says: The Odd Fellows' Relief Association of Portland, which at one time had 4,000 members, has closed its business. It is explained that although the membership desired graded assessments instead of the level assessment plan, those in authority invariably defeated the measure. The result has been that all the younger members of the associations have sought insurance elsewhere. This left the membership reduced one-half, composed principally of old members; the death rate was naturally largely increased, and a once strong and vigorous association is no more, on account of the refusal of the officers to adopt the graded system of assessments.

The Odd Fellows' Building Association of Nashua has through its directors, bonded the elegible lot at the corner of Main and Temple streets, and if deemed advisable the subscribers will, after holding a meeting, close the bargain. The Odd Fellows of this city are quietly at work on a similar project.

THE LEGIONS OF HONOR.

The Grand Council of Massachusetts American Legion of Honor was held at Boston last week. Grand Commander Nelson S. Wakefield presiding. The present membership in this state is 5319, a loss of 52 during the year. Receipts of Grand Council, $6049; expenses, $3998. The salaries remain the same as last year. A proposition to change the constitution so that the Grand Commander may appoint minor officers was defeated. The per capita tax remains the same as last year, 74 cents; but a special tax of 25 cents a member was voted for, increasing the new membership in this jurisdiction, to be paid by the councils.

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THE POOR MAN'S INSURANCE.
$100 IN SIX MONTHS.
$100 OR $200 IN ONE YEAR.
$300 IN TWO YEARS,
OR AT DEATH.
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The Order of the Golden Grail is beyond its experimental stage. It has become a *pronounced certainty.*
Assessments, $2 and $4. Three new classes of endowment. For full particulars, inquire of
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LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m., 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, 9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, ‡3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at 7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, ‡8.10 and 11.30 a. m., 12.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at 4.50 p. m.

‡Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
E. N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley, 10 a.m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.15, prayer meeting in the chapel; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by Rev. W. M. Sewall; 11.50 Bible School; 4 p. m., Swedish services with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, Vesper Praise service with sermon by Rev. W. M. Sewall. All are cordially welcome.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Transparency of Conduct;" at 12 m., Sunday School. 7, p.m.' service of praise and prayer. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 54 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a.m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by Rev. C. F. Rice of Leominster; Sunday School at 12; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., and 7 p. m., Rev. H. R. Rose of Tufts College will preach morning and evening. Subjects "The Unknowable God, and in the evening a talk to young people upon "The Power of a Soft Answer." Sunday School at 12 m. All are welcome.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m.; subject "The Present Truth" evening service at 7 p. m., subject, "A Bible view of Hell" in contrast with the Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Pagan View" preaching by R. C. Brown of Conn. All are cordially invited.

Rollstone Church (Congregational), corner of Main and Snow Sts., Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service at 10.30 a. m. sermon by C. L. Tomblen of Pepperell; 12 m. Sunday School; 7 p. m., People's service, sermon by Rev. C. L. Tomblen. Public cordially invited.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes.

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GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

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BANNER

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

TUESDAY.

St. Patrick's day.

"The Drunkard" at the opera house.

WEDNESDAY.

Spiritualists' dance at G. A. R. hall.

THURSDAY.

"Yon Yonson" at the opera house.

LENT HAS COME!

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—AT—

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Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St.
A. L. Williams & Co., Grocers, 153 & 155 Main St.
H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St.
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St.
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St.
J. F. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block.
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 3 American House Block.
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 374 Main St.
L. E. Howard, Photographer, rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St.
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St.
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St.
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St.
A. V. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St.

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.\
NUMBER 12.}

FITCHBURG, MASS., MARCH 21, 1891.

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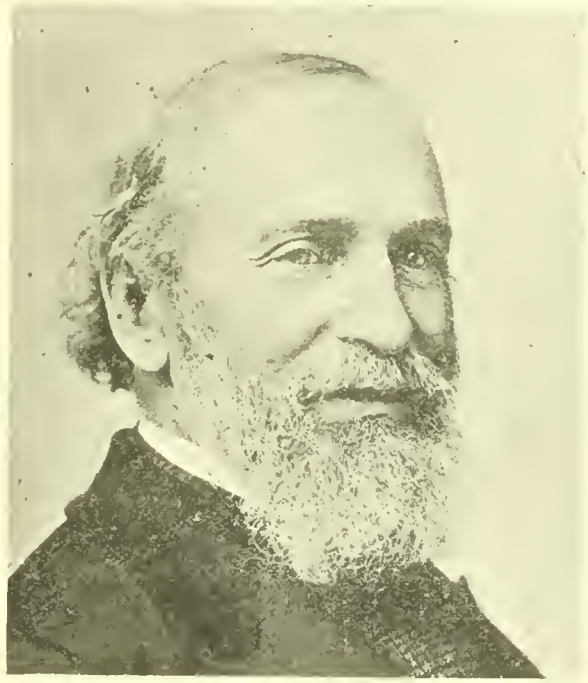

WILLIAN TAYLOR ADAMS.

(OLIVER OPTIC.)

William Taylor Adams, the well-known writer, is a native of Medway, Mass., and was born July 30, 1822. He was for 20 years a teacher in the public schools of Boston, 14 years a member of the school committee of Dorchester, and one year a member of the legislature. His career commenced about 1850 and since that time about a thousand stories have appeared in newspapers exclusive of his books. Most of his stories have been written for the young, with whom he has a warm sympathy. In his earlier life he edited the "Student and Schoolmate," and in 1881 "Our Little Ones," but he is best known by his Oliver Optic's Magazine for Boys and Girls. His first book appeared in 1853 "Hatchie the Guardian Slave" or the "Heir of Bellevue" which had a large sale, and was followed by "In Doors and Out" a collection of stories. His other works mainly in series, include "The Boat Club," "Woodville," "Young America Abroad," "Yacht Club," and "Great Western." His published works comprise about 100 volumes. He has written two novels for older readers. He is familiarly known as "Oliver Optic."

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

Louis Harrison, the actor, was telling some friends at the Narrgansett Hotel, the other evening, about his first meeting with Herrmann, the magician. It was on a Brooklyn ferry-boat. While they were in conversation Herrmann carelessly took hold of Harrison's watch chain, finally pulling the watch from the pocket, and began to twirl the chain around with his fingers. Suddenly the watch parted from the chain and went overboard. Harrison prized the watch far beyond its intrinsic value, as it was a present from his father. Hermann appeared to be sorely disappointed and, finally, between tears, said he had intended to do a trick with the watch but it got away from him, and now there was no other alternative, he said, but for him to buy another watch for Harrison. If the latter would accompany him to Tiffany's he would purchase the most expensive watch in the establishment to make up for his carelessness. Soon after reaching shore, Harrison said, Herrmann purchased a couple of sandwiches, and presented one of them to him. "And what do you thank I found in my sandwich?" said Harrison. "Why, the gold watch," chimed in two or three in the party. "No," said Harrison, "I found a piece of ham." Then everybody smiled.—[Providence Critic.

The following from the *Hotel Mail* will interest everybody who makes a practice of putting up at hotels. It will be remembered that our hotels are now supplied with this *primitive* appliance. The primitive knotted fire escape has done some service at hotel fires, but one must know how to handle it, just as he must know how to handle a lobster. One of the guests of a hotel that burned last week tied one end of the rope to the bed post and leaped out of the window with the other end in his hand. When he reached the ground, which he did in about the tenth of a second, he must have been greatly pleased to discover that he might have fallen 10 feet further without taking up all the slack.

The New York *Herald* has taken a very pronounced stand in its opposition to the same classes of secret benefit orders, loan and investment companies that are playing such havoc with business. The *Herald* tersely put the case in this way. "When a new company with a handsome prospectus and bushels of recommendations promises to double your investment in twelve months keep your money in your pocket. You don't want to grow rich as fast as that; besides, if these fellows could do what they say, they wouldn't ask you or any-body else to share their good luck. The world isn't made that way."

Julia Marlowe made her appearance in Baltimore on Monday night at Ford's in As You Like It and was received with much favor. She has regained her old strength. She has Creston Clarke for her leading support and Mattie Ford a debutante is in the east.

Have you a Cough or Cold?

—TRY OUR—

CHERRY LAUREL

COUGH BALSAM

It will cure you.

Prices: 25 and 40 cts.

Have you Rough or Chapped Hands?

Maloon's Amandine

Will make them as soft as a baby's.

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Very nice Sliced Dried Apples, Canned Apples, Dates, Prunes, Prunelles, Apricots, Mince Meat, and pie stock of all kinds. Shaker Apple Sauce, choice Creamery Butter in 3½, 5, 10 and 20 lbs. packages, Plymouth Rock Gelatine, white and pink, mixed and plain Pickles in bulk, Malt Vinegar for table use, Huckins' Soups, Bottled Goods in large variety, Scotch Green Peas, early cooked and almost equal to fresh picked, Oranges, Lemons, Fresh Eggs, Sweet Potatoes, Pop Corn, &c.

PERLEY HOLMES.

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—OF—

Overcoats and Ulsters.

NOW IS THE TIME TO SAVE MONEY.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.

WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD.

Spring Goods are now coming in, and our Men's, Youths' and Boys' Overcoats and Ulsters

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Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

Coleman & Drury,

Invite you to trade with them.

Because they carry the largest assortment.
Because they sell the best quality of goods.
Because their prices are reasonable.
Because their trade is large, which obliges them to buy often, insuring their customers goods that are always fresh.
Because our store is centrally located with entrances on two streets.
Because we have plenty of help and give prompt service, and
Because we give our business our personal and constant attention. Come in and see us.

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TRY THEM!

Old 49,

5 CENT CIGAR.

B. P. S.,

10 CENTS.

A. H. BURGESS, Druggist.

CORNER MAIN AND OLIVER STS.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

Liquor dealers in Lowell are greatly disturbed by the act of the Law Enforcement Association and the fear that spotters are after them.

Lowell can grant only 78 licenses, yet there are nearly 500 persons clamoring for them. It is asserted that a properly conducted liquor shop in that city will pay a big profit, even if the license fee is $2100, the rate named in Haverhill. One wholesale man has through various agents 20 applications in for licenses. The locations he has selected are the best in the city for the business. At the rate of $2100 for a license fee 42000 beers will have to be sold to pay for it, but even with these figures at the end of the year licensee will have enough left over to buy two ten-tenement blocks in which his patrons may live. And yet some of these men are not happy.

We have often urged upon those who have money to invest, the advisabity of investing it at home. Taunton citizens have just experienced a lesson on the risk of investing it away from home. Several of them put their money into the Bay State Shoe Fastener Company, located at Nashua, N. H. The capital stock was $300,000, $27,000 of which was in patents held by one man, The remainder was in good machinery. $50,000 worth of stock was sold in Fall River, some of the stockholders there received their last dividends some did not; Tauntonians appear to have received little more than the ragged edge of despair. One of the Tauntonians was so charmed with the stock that he mortgaged his property to buy the stock. There is a good lesson to be learnt from it invest your money at home and in enterprises in which there is a show of getting a return. It is to be hoped that the concern will yet succeed although at present its prospects have a little uncertain look.

A man, whose specialty is writing circus advertisements and who has just prepared 600,000 words of advertising for Barnum's show, says: "People have become so accustomed to the big adjectives that go with the circus bill that a moderate statement of all the wonders to be seen within the big tent would not attract attention. They are an important part of the show, but it is very exhausting this year finding adjectives big enough."

There is a wealth of study and thought in the meaning and origin of words and phrases. What expression has more Protean identities than "Let her go, Gallagher." Gallagher is a dozen different individualities. He lives in Maine; he lives in Texas; he is noted in Mexico, or a hero in Canada; and he was told to "let her go," and no doubt he did it.

And then "McGinty went down." And who was McGinty, and how did he happen to go down? Every city, town and cross-road has a McGinty.

"Who struck Billy Patterson?" A man in Arizona; a horse thief in Kansas; a bully in Maine. Poor Billy! If he got struck by as many people as claim the honor it is no wonder that he never lived to tell the tale.

Our language is full of such expressions. Their applications are apparent to all; yet none know their origin. Foreigners are astonished at our slang. It is a contradictory language to them; yet it is unique.

We all know the story of the old Dutchman, who, while running on the cars with his window up, was told by a fellow passenger to "look out there," and immediate looked out and never lived to hear the explanation—a telegraph pole happened along about that time. This is only one instance. The abundance of these expressions prove the unadaptability of our language.

We have many indefinite emotions; too many indescribable scenes, too many unutterable sentiments; too many untangible thoughts; in fact, too many laments at the general inexpressibility of words in general. We want an intellgible, comprehensive language, adaptable to our greatest thoughts, and not harnessed to the ready-made conventionable methods of expression.

Apace with the newness of things in general moderners have attempted to achieve the goal. The "New Language has been the Result." "Volapuk" is claimed to be the triumph of the age.—[Ex.

A Lowell Chinaman called at a provision store this forenoon for "pork with the skin on."

There's no telling what one may find in ice. A Pennsylvania man discovered a spider frozen in a solid block of ice, and when the ice was opened out jumped the spider in a good state of preservation. Next.

What is the chief use of bread?" asked an examiner at a school exhibition. "The chief use of bread," answered the urchin, apparently astonished at the simplicity of the inquiry, "is to spread butter and molasses on."

Suppose you try trading with

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

THE HUSTLING

CLOTHIERS,

HATTERS and

FURNISHERS,

141 & 143 MAIN ST.

COR. LAUREL ST.

We are going to build up a business by naming the lowest prices and giving the best goods. No inferior goods shown at any price.

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

One-Price Clothiers.

The Philadelphia *Record* is authority for saying that five hundred thousand people have died in that city in the past thirty years. No wonder that New Yorkers call Philadelphia a dead city.

A not-very-old grandmother had a four-year-old grandson accompany her on a shopping tour this week; while walking about the little fellow persisted in walking in all the water he possibly could. He was requested not to do it; still he persisted. His grandmother turned to him and said: "Harry do you hear me?" "Yes;" said he "and I should think the whole United States could hear you."—[Clinton Courant.

The following comes from the Holyoke *Transcript* and is pretty pointed and will be of interest to many in this city. Rev. S. W. Webb in his Sunday morning discourse at South Hadley Falls, devoted himself to a discussion of the license or no license issue for South Hadley. The brunt of his argument was that Holyoke, across the river, was a "menace to the village" and its saloons a curse to "our people." The argument with all due respect to Mr. Webb and his honest intent, was not well taken nor at all in keeping with the facts of the case. Licenses are better for Holyoke than any phase of prohibition ever yet developed. The fact has been demonstrated again and again and now with Chief Miller's splended enforcement the business has never been better conducted. So much for Holyoke. But what has that to do with South Hadley or any other vicinity town. If residents of the Falls or anywhere else choose to frequent Holyoke saloons and make beasts of themselves how is Holyoke responsible? We regulate the traffic here most judiciously for our own people. The laws are enforced and order and good citizens are maintained. There Holyoke's responsibility ends. We are not South Hadley Fall's keeper nor the guardians of anybody else but ourselves. Holyoke is not a "menace" to South Hadley Falls nor has it ever been. The advancement of such an argument is an injustice to Holyoke and the preacher himself. Mr Webb should remember that if his own townspeople choose to to come over to Holyoke and go home drunk night after night it is they who are to blame. It is they who need preaching to. It is they who need conversion.

"Mother," says little Nezzie, one morning, after having fallen from his bed, "I think I know why I fell out of bed last night; it was because I slept too near the place where I got in." Musing a little, he added, "No, that was not the reason: it was because I slept too near where I fell out."

A Scientific father was explaining to his son, four years old, the philosophy of the growth of trees, when the little pupil was struck with an idea, and exclaimed:—

"Papa, are you growing taller?"

"No, my son, why do you ask?"

"Cause the top of your head is coming through your hair."

Thomas Hood said that Scotchmen found in their heads what they hated to find in their churches—organs. Recently a Highland preacher was declaiming against prayer books and organs, and burst into the following grotesque exclamation: "What would Jonah have done when praying in the whale's belly? He would have said, Lord, I cannot pray to thee; I have not my collect. Lord, I cannot praise thee; I have not my organ. What would he have done with his organ in the whale's belly? The whale would have said, Jonah, I had enough ado to get yourself in, let alone your organ!" This vulgarizing of sacred history is somewhat too common, both in and out of the pulpit.

BROWNELL & MASON.

PLUMBING AND HEATING,

158 MAIN ST.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,

INSURANCE,

145 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

DICKINSON'S NEW BLOCK.

FIRE INSURANCE
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

SPECIAL SALE,

SATURDAY, MAR. 21,

—AT—

The Boston Shoe Store!

569 Pairs Ladies' Bright Dongola Button Boots, Opera and Common Sense, sizes 2½ to 7, widths B to E, $1.75.

These Boots cannot be duplicated elsewhere for less than $2.50. Ladies who have been troubled in getting fitted in Boots of this price will find no difficulty in getting fitted at our store.

24 Pairs Men's Patent Leather Lace Shoes, $2.40.

Regular price, $3.50.

Men's Storm King Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.70.

Men's Woonsocket Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.35.

Men,s Woonsocket Pure Gum Rubber Boots,	$2.75
Ladies' First Quality Rubber Boots,	1.35
Ladies' Plain Croquet Rubbers,	.25
Ladies' Storm Rubbers,	.45
Men's Imt. Sandals, Boston First Quality,	.50

BOSTON SHOE STORE.

182 Main Street, - - Fitchburg, Mass.

HERBERT N. RUGG,

CONFECTIONER,

181 MAIN ST.

The only place in the city that makes a specialty of confectionery and nothing else.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.

ARTISTIC

FLORAL DESIGN WORK,

A SPECIALTY

F. O. WILLARD,

FLORIST,

GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.

Telephone 13-3.

GOSSIP AND HIT-CHAT.

Here are the salaries paid in Woburn, which has a population of 13,491: City clerk $1,200, treasury $1,000, tax collector $1,000, and auditor $400.

Rev. Joseph Cook and others are kicking up a rumpus about having the World's fair open Sundays. Wait a bit Joe, Chicago hasn't proved that it will be open week days yet.

The bicycle "fever" promises to appear with renewed vigor in Fitchburg the coming season and already many are contemplating the purchase of wheels. Moral—Advertise your wheels in TOWN TALK.

Howard of the New York *Press* says, a newspaper is like a theater. It is either a mint or a graveyard, with the chances in favor of the latter. This will be comforting news to the Holyoke Morning *Journal* proprietors. This paper had a six days go-as-you-please existence.

One of the best puns we have ever heard was perpetrated by a minister who had just united in marriage a couple whose Christian names were respectively Benjamin and Ann. "How did they appear during the ceremony?" he was asked. "They appeared both Anninated and Bennie-fitted," was the clever reply.

A representative of an English firm went to Washington a few days ago for the purpose of obtaining evidence regarding the stability of the McKinley bill, as his firm contemplated the establishment of a $3,000,000 manufacturing plant in this country. Major McKinley strongly insisted that the bill was sure to endure, five or six years at least, and when the country at large had begun to realize the great benefit derived from the bill it was quite probable that it would never submit to its repeal. A democratic member of congress was equally confident that the bill was doomed to be repealed early in the next session, even if it had to be passed over the President's veto. This positive information from two informed parties differing so widely, must have placed the man in a dilemma.

When the statutes of some of the Western states were framed, some very crude provisions were enacted. For instance a certain clause in the state laws of Dakota says that an unsuccessful attempt at any crime shall be punished by one half of the full penalty for the executed crime. The penalty for highway robbery is imprisonment for life. A short time since a man was found guilty of unsuccessful robbery and the sentence would legally be imprisonment for one half of the remainder of his life. It happened that no one could exactly settle the length of time which would rationally remain to him on this earth. Accordingly the law was pronounced unconstitutional and the highwayman went free.

The spring girl and the Easter bonnet will soon burst upon us in all the glory of their being. *On dit* that the styles of gowns and head gear are to be ravishing.

In accordance with the request made by a man in Edgerton O., before his death, the band played "Annie Rooney" over his grave. "McGinty" would have been more appropriate, however, for he was "dressed in his best suit of clothes."

There are crimes too atrocious to be dealt with adequately by existing laws. Among such are the wrecking of passenger trains and the firing of crowded tenement houses. The latter crime has been especially rife in New York of late, and if justice shall succeed in laying hands on the felons it is earnestly to be hoped that they may in turn be roasted.

ECONOMY IN FUEL

BY THE USE OF THE

GAS CO'S PREPARED

COKE!

The Gas Company now has

PREPARED COKE ON HAND.

A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.

A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE :. JOB :. PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

GREAT SUCCESS!

We are having with our

ICE-CREAM AND HOME-MADE CANDIES.

Also a choice line of

Domestic and Imported Groceries

At reasonable prices.

E. M. READ.

BUY YOUR

FRUIT and PROVISIONS

—AT—

CENTRAL MARKET,

—AND—

GET THE BEST.

COAL LACKAWANNA. CHESTNUT. $7 PER TON.

HARD. SOFT. WOOD

8 Baskets Best Hard Wood,	$1.00
10 " Mixed " "	1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord,	5.50
Soft Wood, "	3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord, . . .	4.50
Splints, per bunch, . .	.05

100 cords dry wood in our sheds ready for delivery. All orders by mail or otherwise promptly delivered.

F. H. ARNOLD,

16 HARWOOD PLACE.

GEO. W. WRIGHT 360 MAIN ST. FITCHBURG, MASS. PRINTING SUPPLIES

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That even he who *runs* on Main street may read Lovering & Co's new signs.

That the City Fathers did a good thing in appropriating $5,000 additional for the new armory. This is a building which will stand for a long time and as there is 30 years in which to pay for it, it is best to have it done right. It will certainly be an ornament to the city.

That the proprietor of a billiard room is very strict in regard to minors using his billiard or pool tables. Several young men, it is said who have matured early and bear the mark of manhood on their upper lip are trembling for fear that they may be required to furnish a certificate or permit from their parents.

That a young grocer's clerk over the river stood gazing in astonishment at about a dozen hair-pins which were lying on the sidewalk near his residence, Wednesday morning, and was trying to figure out how they came there, when a neighbor came along and ejaculated "There must have been quite a frolic at your house, last night." "Only an oyster supper" responded the young clerk.

We are willing to announce at any time the name of the public-spirited citizen who desires to immortalize himself by placing a fountain on the lawn at the Old Ladies' Home, and there is no objection to making mention at the same time of the name of the charitably-disposed person who will furnish a neat iron fence for the front of the enclosure

One of the minor curses which beset the working people of this city is the army of sharks who infest the factories and workshops and dispose of their truck on the instalment plan. They are generally sent out by business concerns in the large cities, and their stock in trade usually consists of bibles, albums, clocks, rugs, pictures, books and the like. By making their terms apparently easy they secure many victims who, thinking that 25 cents down and 25 cents a week is of trifling importance, will frequently put themselves under the obligation to pay seven or eight dollars for an article that could in most instances be purchased for half that amount if the local dealer was patronized. Then each succeeding week the collector appears and if the quarter is not forthcoming a demand is liable to be made for the return of the articles. In most cases the goods thus purchased are not needed and many of them are discarded long before the last instalment is paid. A good maxim for wage earners to adopt would be never to go in debt for anything unless it is absolutely necessary. If you want a $3 album lay aside 25 cents each week and when you have the desired amount purchase it of a reliable dealer in your own city, and with the other four or five dollars, which would be paid if bought on the instalment plan, you can procure much that is useful and beneficial.

That if there is one thing more than another in which a Fitchburg citizen takes pride it is the large number of its flourishing societies. The A. O. H. are now quietly talking up among themselves a building for the order in this city.

That the dramatic entertainment given by members of St. Bernard's Temperance society at the Opera House Tuesday evening, was a great success socially and financially. While many of the young amateurs won new laurels. All who took part gained the close attention of the large and enthusiastic audience, and reflected credit on the society.

Special Notice!

A. L. Williams & Co.

Expect a large assortment

—OF—

Chocolate Goods,
Bonbons, Etc.

—FOR—

SATURDAY.

PRICES VERY LOW.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

The only practical Spring Frame.

35 Different Models

—FOR—

Ladies, Gents and Boys.

$35.00 or upwards.

THE HARTFORD

For Ladies and Gents.

$100.00. (Warranted.)

Also, a full line of sundries.

BOWKER & HOLLAND,

162 MAIN STREET.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER

Rolled Avena, 10c.,
Rolled Oats, 10c.,
Nudavene Flakes, 10c.,
Germ Grits, 10c.,
Farina, 10c.,
Ta-Ka-Kake, 7c.,
Rex Wheat, 13c.,
Hecker's Griddle Cake, 15c.

We have only 27 cases of the above cereals, and will sell wholesale or retail at prices named.

500 BBLS. FLOUR IN STOCK

And we are going to sell it. Call and get our prices.

W. M. GRAY,

389 MAIN ST., · · FITCHBURG.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The masonic fraternity in Kansas City are to erect a temple costing $500,000. A stock company has been formed.

There are 191 deaths on the March call in the Knights of Honor, and the assessment will realize over $390,000.

An exchange says. The order of United Workman makes an average daily disbursement of about $13,000, including Sundays, which gives a grand total for the year of $4,745,000.

Rev. Lucius B. Page, D. D., the eminent Universalist clergyman and expositor recently celebrated his 89th birthday at his home in Cambridgeport. He is said to be the oldest Universalist minister in the world and is an old Past Commander of the Knights Templar.

Boston architects have, unsolicited, submitted to the directory of the proposed Odd Fellows building in Nashua, plans for a fine structure, five stories high, and conveniently arranged. Let us hope the same parties will soon have the privelege of doing the same to the Fraternity of this city.

The Non-Secret Endowment Order, of which John F. Bruce of this city is an enthusiastic worker has organized several assemblies in New Hampshire, the latest being at Weare. This fraternity has paid $8674 in benefits, there is over $16,000 reserve, a balance in the relief fund of $5,000, and there were 4,000 members Feb. 2.

The I. O. O. F., is the largest and the richest, secret society in the world. It is growing at the rate of 30,000 members a year, and expends $6,000,000 annually to relieve the destitute, to educate the orphan, care for the widow, and bury the dead. Yet every now and then some crack brained minister has to get up and denounce it.

The Progressive Benefit Order was incoporated May 12, 1890, under the insurance laws of Massachusetts, and today has a membership of 29,000, consisting of 435 lodges located in 30 different States of the Union. No such growth has ever been attained by any other order The Order pays $100 in one year.

Committees from the varions lodges of Odd Fellows in this city have decided to observe the 72nd anniversary of the Order on Wednesday afternoon and evening, April 27. There will be a short parade in the afternoon followed by a dinner at city hall and an entertainment and dance in the evening. The Daughters of Rebekah will take part in the anniversary exercises.

An Odd Fellows building seems to be within the early probabilities in this city. A committee from the various bodies has reported favorably upon the project and immediate steps will be taken to have "The Odd Fellows Building Association" incorporated. The capital will be $40,000 and the shares are quoted at $10 each. All Odd Fellows are invited to take a few shares but no one is asked to subscribe for more than five at present. The proposed building when completed will probably cost about $60,000 and will be a capital investment for those of limited means to be interested in. Odd Fellowship in this city seems to be one of the most prosperous organizations we have.

ANOTHER SPECIAL LOT

—OF—

CHOCOLATES

—AT—

17 CENTS PER POUND.

—ON—

SATURDAY.

E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

SPRING GOODS!

We are daily receiving Spring Goods at the

Central Shoe Store, 185 Main St.

Full worth for your money is guaranteed on every purchase. Our specialties are the

W. L. Douglas,
Nox-Em-All and
Quaker Shoes.

All goods warranted as represented.

D. H. PIERCE'S
CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,
185 Main St.

Kimball & Co.

It makes us shiver to write about Spring Clothes, but no knowing, perhaps e'er you read this, things may have changed and a Spring Overcoat will be just what you want.

If so, what we want you to know is that our stock is ready for inspection and sale, and, if we do say it, we are honest in our belief that a better variety of styles and prices combined with neat fabrics, perfectly fitting, elegantly trimmed and made Spring Overcoats were never shown this side of Boston.

Our stock of Hats is simply superb. All the popular blocks at popular prices.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

Henry E. Dixey is reported as having reformed, and has not touched liquor or tobacco for a year.

John C. Rice, of Monroe & Rice, will star in a new comedy next season, which is entitled a "A Knotty Affair."

"The two orphans," with Kate Claxton, Mrs. McKee Rankin and Wilton Lackaye in the leading *roles*, made an immense hit in New York recently.

Sol. Smith Russell will present a dramatic version of Mark Twain's story, "A Yankee at the Court of King Arthur," sometime next season.

Banks Winter, who was here last week with Cleveland's Minstrels, is the author of "White Wings," he got away alive simply because the papers did not give him away.

This is the way the Springfield *Graphic* does up Hoyt's "Trip to Chinatown." "'A Trip to Chinatown' is interesting—as going to show how little it takes to please some people. What it lacks in the rapidity of "A Tin Soldier" it makes up in general cussedness in every other direction. It is as plastic as putty, and as elastic as chewing gum" And also indulges in the following. "Between Sims & Petitt's stilted, howling, ranting melodramas, that are as alike as two chestnuts, and Hoyt's drunken, bare-legged farces, the public prefers Chas. H Hoyt every time."

Years ago, when Nat Goodwin was giving imitations of popular actors throughout the country, Frank Mayo met John Ellsler in Pittsburg. Mayo had been to see Goodwin's performance and he was gloomy. Said he, "Have you seen young Goodwin?" Ellsler replied that he had. "How did you like his imitations?" Ellsler said they were immense. "I'm-m," mused Mayo' "What did you think of his imitation of me?" "Great," exclaimed Ellsler, "it is the best thing he does." Mayo was silent for a moment, then, with impressive force, he ejaculated, "I'm blanked if I don't change my style of acting."

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

"Yon Yonson" at the Boston theatre was followed by the ever popular Primrose & West's minstrels. It is almost unnecessary to say that crowded houses have greeted them. Lew Dockstader presented a number of new specialties which were well received. The jokes are nearly all new and the company is far above the average. The troupe is booked for this city April 3.

"Sunlight and Shadow" at the Boston Museum continues to be a drawing card but will run only one more week. Few plays receive such favorable commendation from all sources and it would probably be well patronized for some weeks yet. Commencing March 30 a whimsical satire by Jerome K. Jerome will be produced. This will be preceded by the charming comedietta "The Open Gate."

"Blue Jeans" at the Hollis street theatre is said to be the talk of the town. It is a delightful comedy and has been the means of drawing packed houses during the two weeks it has run. Next week will be its last and all who visit Boston will make no mistake in visiting this charming performance.

The Globe theatre this week has been devoted to celebrating the memory of St. Patrick, and Joseph Murphy and his company has presented "Shaun Rhue" and "The Kerry Gow." Big crowds have been present every evening. Next week the ever popular piece "Aunt Jack" and "A Man of the World" will be given by excellent companies.

Ship Ahoy; ship ahoy, there Park theatre what's the trouble with you, why let go the anchor when so many passengers wait a chance to see your pretty little vessel? Standing room only is a familiar sign displayed at the Park now, yet only one more week before the opera closes. May first and the opera comes to this city. Keep the date in your hat, you will want to see this piece.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Tuesday evening, St. Bernard's T. A. Society made a very creditable showing for amateurs in "The Drunkard." While of course the piece lacked the smoothness and the go expected of professional performances it was given in good shape. Jas. J. Phelan, as Edward Middleton; Andrew Connery, as Lawyer Cribbs; M. F. Farrel as Farmer Gates; Ed. J. Driscoll as the landlord; Misses Winnie Welch, Celia Bagley and Lizzie Gannon; as Mary Wilson, Agnes Dowton and Miss Spindle respectively all did remarkably well in their roles. The second, third and fourth acts seemed to be most favorably received.

Thursday evening Gus Heege's dialect comedy "Yon Yonson" made its first appearance in Fitchburg. The piece portrays the experiences of a Swede in the lumber camps of Minnesota and introduces an English tourist who is victimized by the villain of the piece. Yon, of course, proves a match for the villian and all ends happily. The staging of the piece is good and the log jam a fine piece of stage mechanism. All things considered the piece was well staged here and gave general satisfaction.

On Monday comic opera will be with us and as it has been so long absent we predict a large audience. The piece selected is Strauss's tuneful hit "The Gypsy Baron" which includes not only a bevy of pretty ladies, but some really catching music. The manager claims that the ladies are the prettiest on the road, the actors all accomplished, costumes unsurpassed for beauty and the music enchanting. These being the essentials of comic opera the piece ought to prove delightful.

On Friday next the versatile Lilly Clay and Sam T. Jack's Creoles will pay us their annual visit in their abreviated costumes. The performance is a combination of minstrelsy, burlesque, opera and variety. The opening piece is an aggregation of females in scanty costume entitled "Beauty in Dreamland." A number of of statues are introduced in dim light and a burlesque on Robin Hood and Antony and Cleopatra also fill the bill.

The following attractions are also booked for this city: Mar. 30, Nellie McHenry; April 3, Primrose & West's minstrels; 6, "The Hustler;" 10, Charles T. Ellis; 13, Frohman's Lyceum Co. in "The Wife;" 15, "Fatmen's Club;" 18 "Chanfrau;" 28, Frank Daniels in "Little Puck;" 29, "The Nabobs."

OPERA HOUSE.

MONDAY, MARCH 23,

The Gypsy Baron.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27,

LILLY CLAY'S

GAIETY COMPANY.

I am glad to see that Paul Pry has commenced following up the school house question, because the time for action is ripe. We need more school-houses, even a raven can see that. I think the best plan would be to make a special loan for school-house work, borrowing about $50,000 for the purpose. With this sum perhaps three new school houses could be got well under way this year and after that it would be plainer sailing. As Mr. Hall says the work is done just behind the demand instead of just ahead of it. Three new school houses would just about place us ahead of the demand and-once ahead we ought to be able to keep ahead for several years. Something must be done and there is no time like the present. Even if such a course were taken at once it would be a year before the overcrowding would be relieved. More school houses, more school houses, let us have more school houses.

It appears from the papers that the Board of Health has had a little trouble in its ranks which is much to be regretted. This Board is one whose duties are of such a nature that it must necessarily come in conflict with many people who either through ignorance or neglect violate the laws this board is specially selected to enforce. It is therefore unfortunate that any want of harmony in its ranks should mar the effieiency of its work. There are many things waiting for it to attend to and under the most favorable conditions these gentlemen will make some enemies which is all the more important that the members should be in perfect harmony.

Would it not be better for the city in several ways if the number of electric lights were increased and if they burned longer than is now the case? In many cities the lights burn all night an arrangement which is of great benefit to the officers and public as it affords a greater amount of protection. While the price paid here for electric lights will compare very favorably with sister cities, the price per light would be less per hour than it now is if they burned all night, but the aggregate expense would be more than we now pay. There is a constant demand for additional lights which has not been met although the lights have in cases been relocated to great advantage. More mast arms are also needed in places where trees interfere with the lights.

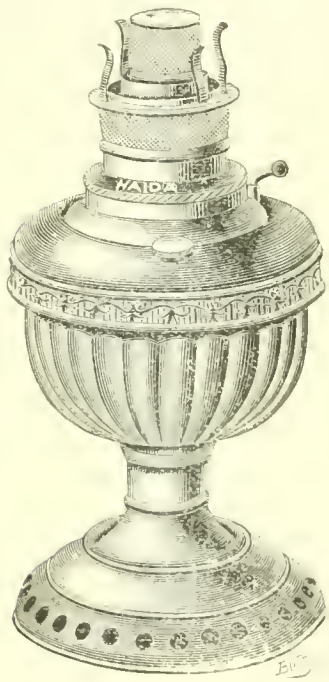
Perhaps it is a little early to allude to the matter now, but as soon as the weather moderates the nuisance will again be felt. Last year many complaints were made about the condition of the water in the watering troughs; dust of course always blows in, it cannot be prevented, stones are thrown in and worst of all dogs make a practice of turning the troughs into swimming baths. These causes often made the water very bad, the surface was all right, but underneath it was very unpleasant. The fact that the water is constantly running in and out of course makes it better, but during the heated term it would be a great advantage if the troughs were cleaned out thoroughly every one or two weeks.

One of the comic papers says March is the meanest, darndest and cussedest month in the whole year and I believe it is true. The change from winter to spring, or summer if you like that better, is a hard and trying time and almost enough to make a poor raven despair. Cold boisterous winds, cold rains, little fits of sunshine just enough to tempt one to leave off heavy coats, rubbers etc. and thereby get a good cold or a streak of pneumonia, snow on one side of the street and dust flying on the other are the peculiarities of this trying period. The effect is also felt on trade and some of the storekeepers claim that trade is far from what it ought to be or even was last year. All the store keepers have got their spring goods and nobody seems anxious to buy them or to invest in winter stock so things remain very quiet. Meanwhile they are trying to console themselves with the thought that there's a good time coming.

I am not an enthusiastic disciple of Nationalism, yet I am a little surprised that there are so few in this city who take any interest in Bellamy's scheme. The principles may not be all right and may be far from popular, but they certainly deserve more consideration than they receive. In quite a number of cities Nationalist clubs have been formed for the consideration and discussion of the plans set forth in that remarkable book and doubtless much good has resulted to the masses as a result of adopting some of the less radical measures. The matter is worth serious thought. There are a few single tax men here, but they seldom make themselves known.

It is surprising what a number of people, mostly young people—more especially young ladies—may be seen every day on the streets who carry various stringed instruments such as banjo, guitar, zither, mandolin etc. It is considered quite the fashion to be able to play one of these instruments and some of them are able to produce some very fine tunes when manipulated by skilful hands. The avarage society girl is expected to play the piano a little as well as to sing moderately well, and to be able to pick up one of the aforesaid instruments adds a little charm even if the music is not of the highest order. Some produce anything but enchanting music, but the Fitchburg Mandolin and Guitar Club is a notable exception, but if you do not think a raven is a good judge go hear them is the advice of

ROES PAVEN.



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A POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTE.

MARY ANN HOOLEY: *Th' cat's grappled th' [illegible] an' jumped out th' windy!*

POLLY: *I may be foolish, but I don't like the expression of the old man's eye.*

EDUCATION *vs.* DRESS.

"[illegible] Mamie Stone, you may be in a higher class at [illegible] I am, but you can't come nowhere near me in [illegible] there!"

WHAT WAS HIS CRIME?

SNODGRASS: Did you ever see John Boyle O'Reilly?

SNIVELY: No; what had O'Reilly done that John [illegible] boil him?

A CURIOUS FACT.

"I TELL you, George, there isn't much pie in a convict's life."

"No, but he gets his desserts just the same."

CALLED DOWN—Feathers.

THE UNIVERSAL NAME.

THERE'S many a man answers the name of Smith,
And ditto of Jones and Brown,
And others respond to the various names
The Directory-makers put down.

But there are more people answer to one little name
Than to anyone under the sun.
Yes, uncounted thousands respond to that word,
For the oft heard name "Say" is the one.

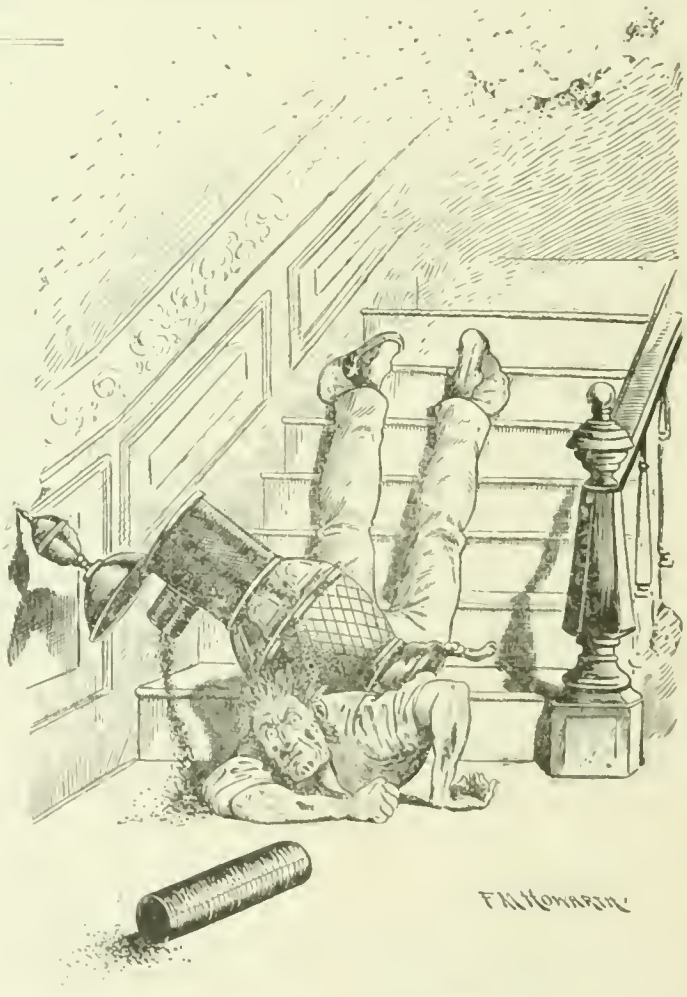
Ruth Kimball.

IT'S A WAY DEAF PEOPLE HAVE.

"I TOLD that deaf old Mrs. Peters about Saidie, and what do you think she said?"

"What?"

"Yes. That's what she said."



ASSISTANCE UNNECESSARY.

VOICE FROM ABOVE: *William [illegible] without assistance?*

WILLIAM (*after extracting the [illegible] my dear; I got it down with a great deal [illegible] effort than I expected.*

AFTER THE LEAVES OF HIS POCKET-BOOK.

WIFE. *Woman clings to man like the ivy to the oak.*

HE (*who has just paid a milliner's bill*). *Yes. She seems to get around him pretty thoroughly.*

THE PLUMBER'S PLAINT.

I WEEP, I moan, and my heart is filled with gloom,
And the fire in my furnace is not lighted;
Whilst my quarters I have changed to a wee small attic room,
And everything worth living for seems blighted.

My rosin and my solder are left upon my hands,
And I've charcoal by the barrel in my closet
I've sold my trotting horses, my diamonds, my lands,
And from the bank I've drawn my last deposit.

If the why and the wherefore of this you'd like to know,
I can very quickly give to you the reason;
The sunshine, and the rain, and the quickly melting snow
Haven't caused a blessed pipe to bust this season.

OUR SOLDIER DEAD.

OUR soldier dead, in silent grave,
In sweet repose. You died to save
The nation, and to-day we wreathe
Immortelles, that what you bequeath
Of brave and patriotic worth,
May never vanish from this earth.
To you we owe our mighty State,
Our present peace. If some irate
And foreign ruler thinks 'twere best,
To send his ships, in sportive jest,
And knock our towns about our ears,
He hesitates, because he fears,
To wake the wrath of sons of sires,
Who never flinched 'neath galling fires.
We need no army, ships, nor fort;
Your memory is our strong support.
We cannot cancel our great debt,
Nor can this people e'er forget
The lesson you so nobly taught.
The true American, who fought
In blue and gray, would well defend
His cause and colors, to the end.

Harry Romaine.

EDISON'S LATEST.

"My! what a pretty doll, and can she talk?"

"Yes, sir."

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

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MARCH 21, 1891.

A few months ago everybody was interested in the resurrection of the Board of Trade and after considerable exertion that defunct body once more became an animated organization. The revival was an interesting event and the resurrected Board started off with a very fair showing. A large number of invitations were sent out to responsible men, men who ought to be identified with this Board, but only about one fourth of them have yet responded. This Board is a valuable body to have in any city and we hope our business men, young and old, will take hold and help keep the breath of life within it. Do not let us have another funeral over it. It's success depends on all.

* * *

Comparatively few persons in this country will sanction mob violence and lynch law, but the better part of New Orleans doubtless experiences a sense of relief that the people had the courage to strike a death blow at a society of murderous cut throats. The affair is greatly to be deplored on account of the very delicate complication arising between this country and Italy, but the people seem to have endured the evil until it became unbearable. When the ordinary course of justice fails in a desperate case of this kind desperate steps almost invariably follow. The remark of one of the London papers is very true.—The American people are at the same time the most patient and impatient of all people.

* * *

The police force of Boston may not rule the earth but it is certainly boss of the Hub. The officers club the citizens into insensibility and imbecility, shoot at anything seen moving from a Newfoundland dog to a Davenport boy or a citizen peacefully wending his way home, and the offender somehow or other squeezes through without suffering for it. Now it becomes impossible for an inoffensive reporter to go about his business without coming in violent contact with one of the lords of creation and yet the Hub smiles a complacent smile. Next thing we may expect to hear of a minister on his way to church being clubbed for not remaining at home.

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PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES

One sketch last week was unburdened by a number, but was probably easily recognized as the baggage room at the depot. No. 59 could be none other than Henry A. Willis, our former respected city treasurer.

Near the centre of the busiest part of the city is a brick building. It is not a large building, but is devoted to various purposes in spite of its limited proportions. One part is used as hotel and rejoices in the title of "House," another part furnishes railroad offices, another is used as a dwelling and still another is used as head quarters for a public weigher, a justice of the peace and a notary public all combined in one good-natured individual. It is of the latter that this sketch deals most particularly. If the Sketcher had to find a name for this rendezvous (for that's what it is) I think he would not hesitate for a moment, but would simply call it "The Old Curiosity Shop" as the most appropriate name. For it is quite a curiosity shop—old guns, pistols, swords, cannon balls, spears, pictures, books, papers and relics of the war and other events being hung on all sides. The owner is quite a figure too, and here assemble quite a number of men in the course of a week who hold animated discussions on all topics of importance during the spare moments of the proprietor. This little place is also head quarters for lots of old veterans and by this time nearly everybody will have recognized it.

Perhaps you have seen the play with the land agent in it, the land agent who always has a corner lot for sale at a ridiculously low price and one that will probably bring the buyer a fortune if he only buys *now*, when the price is down—terribly down, and sells when prices are up—terribly up. The agent of whom I speak seldom, in the play, sells a lot, but he is such a versatile fellow that he never cares. This sketch is a real estate agent and a versatile fellow, but not exactly like the one in the play. After leaving school he learnt the machinist's trade, after following that for some years he "donned the gray," (I do not mean the Confederate gray), after leaving that occupation he began lighting the darkness of his fellow citizens in behalf of the storekeepers and —himself, that is he run an illuminating business. In connection with this he also began dealing in corner lots and lots not cornered. At the present time he is one of the largest real estate dealers in the city and is quite a prominent citizen. He is a very social man and is a member of two or three of the leading societies here. There is no need to say anything further about No. 61 because by this time everybody has picked him out and that is just what I intended, because I know he has a house lot to sell just suitable to your wants.

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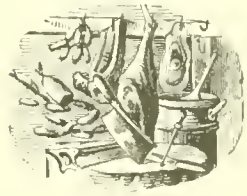
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(Commenced in Vol. II. No. 4. Back numbers can be had.)

THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER IX.

IN WHICH BARKER'S IMPORTANCE IS GREATLY MAGNIFIED.

Constable Fales is a new appointee on the town's force. In fact he is a new man in the town, and he has come into prominence chiefly because he is physically a large man, and upon one occasion assisted another officer to capture a tough customer.

Thus far he has labored as a farm-hand on the outskirts, and has become famous for cutting a wide swath with the scythe and winning in a lifting match at the Northern County Fair. He has added to his fame by minding his own affairs very scrupulously, and wholly ignoring the affairs of others in the neighborhood, which is certainly a notable trait in any community even to this day.

The stride which takes him into the room almost implies that he expects to find some one there-in upon whom to exercise his functions as an officer; and greater stress is put upon this implication by the glance which he bestows in turn upon each inmate, and which rests last upon Mr. Fenlow as if he was the man he wants.

James Warfield hastens to step up to this new comer, and touch him significantly on the arm.

"Yes, I sent for you," he says, in answer to the man's questioning glance. "But we will step out before we talk."

He draws Constable Fales out into the hall and thence into his own bedroom, which is far enough from the one wherein the wounded man lies to preclude the possibility of their voices reaching him, provided that he ever becomes conscious of human voices again.

"Well, where's the man I'm to arrest? got him safe, I hope?" And the constable looks about him as if he expects that the culprit may be shut up in a drawer of the mahogany dressing-case, or possibly in a closet belonging to the room.

"We haven't seen the perpetrator of the crime. We do not know who he is or whither he fled, if he fled at all. If the young man who went after you said anything about it you knowa t least that the whole affair is a peculiar one and that it is involved in a mystery."

"Ha!—well," the constable exclaimed with a grimace. "The boy told me something about some table-tipping and buzzing of a lamp and stopping of a clock and a lot of such nonsense. It went into one ear and out of t'other. It is all fudge and smoke and I would'nt snap my finger for the whole of it. But he said your brother, a Mr. Edward Warfield had a bad cut in the neck, and that somebody must have meant to do murder. No nonsense about *that*. I supposed you had caught the rascal—that he was a burglar or a tramp or something like that."

"We have not seen him, and have no suspicion as to whom he may be or what his motive."

"You have searched the house of course?"

"No we thought it better to wait until you came."

"Wait 'till I came! That's a pretty notion. Was it yours? Were you afraid, two or three men of you, to search your own house? I never heard of such a thing. Why didn't you call in a neighbor, and some hired men, and turn the house topsy-turvy. That was the thing to do. I don't want any neighbors to help me, but I'll go through your house like a whirlwind, and if I don't find the culprit in it I'll find his tracks and follow him out of it."

James tries to explain their reasons for putting off the search, but Constable Fales will not listen a moment.

"I didn't come to talk about the mystery, and wonder about it," he says, in his crisp tones. "I came to find the would-be murderer. Come, fetch along your lamp and show me to every nook and cranny in the house. And tell me the circumstances while we are searching."

James obeys, and as they go out into the long hall Mr. Fenlow in his shawl and skull-cap joins them.

Fales eyes him askance, while James relates the details. They go from room to room and Fales looks under beds and into closets, and even raises the lids to chests and pokes his head into every possible place where a man's head may be poked. Mr. Fenlow accompanies them and suggests places which Warfield overlooks. It is a very energetic search, and so thorough that even the rats are sent scurrying away from spots which they have held undisturbed possession of for years.

"So you would have me believe that your daughter warned the gentleman of danger in her vision, and even lived it out in her own imagination?" Constable Fales demands of Mr. Fenlow, after they

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have completed the search of the upper rooms.

"I have told you precisely what occured," says Mr. Fenlow, in his soft voice.

"You have told me a lot of nonsense that no man with his wits about him would think of swallowing," the officer retorts, turning upon the guest as though he would call him to account for trying to humbug him.

"I simply ask you to question Mr. Warfield, or Barker or Miss Pond, or my daughter—"

"You needn't ask me to do anything of the sort, for I won't appeal to somebody else's foolishness to back up your foolishness when that is an article that everybody has enough of without borrowing. Why, what would your story amount to in a court of law?"

"I am ready to give it under oath," declares Fenlow, quietly.

"You'll never have the chance. No judge or jury would listen to it. You'd be accused of contempt of court. You'd be laughed at right in the witness-box! I tell you, if you want to keep *your* skirts clear in this case don't try to make out that any disemboded ghost has been engaging a flesh and blood man in a tussle, and trying to make a disembodied ghost of him. At what time did this affair take place?"

"About eleven o'clock, as nearly as we can judge," James replies.

"Where were you at the time?"

"In the sitting-room."

"And this gentleman, here?"

"He was there with us."

"And his daughter?"

"She was there every moment of the time."

"None of you were out of the room during the evening, after the victim came up stairs?"

"Miss Fenlow went out with me for a stroll. We were gone only a few minutes."

"And this gentleman?"

"We left him in the sitting-room reading and he says he wasn't out of the room during the period."

"Who beside were in the house?"

"Miss Pond and Barker."

"And the cat," supplements Fales, while a broad wrinkle forms upon either side of his mouth, which wrinkles are all the signs of mirth or incredulity that he ever allows to show themselves on his shrewd face.

"You might count the clock," says Fenlow, who is manifestly ill at ease under this man's brusqueness.

"The clock stopped, so we can't count that. It seems, too, after you found out that the young woman's prophecy had come pretty nigh being fulfilled that you all stopped, like the clock, and let the culprit escape. He probably jumped out of a window. Couldn't he do that from the room where the struggle took place?

"It would be possible. But it would be a dangerous leap."

"Not so dangerous as staying inside till I came, though if he had only known he would have been safe for all of anything that you might do. Well, we'll go down stairs and through the rooms and cellar. Then we'll go out of doors and look for tracks."

They did search the lower rooms and the cellar with the same result.

Then they go out and look for tracks. But none are found, and it turns out that the window through which the would-be murderer is supposed to have escaped is fastened on the inner side, and there are cobwebs on ths fastening and dust on the frame, which have not been disturbed, much to Miss Pond's humiliation, for she is the sworn enemy of dust and cobwebs and intends that neither shall obtain a hold within her domain.

Constable Fales is baffled. He goes over the house again, more slowly. This time he has Barker carry the lamp for him, and commands Mr. Fenlow to stay down stairs and James to remain with the doctor and Saadi in the room where the victim still lies, in that still struggle against death.

With Fenlow and Warfield out of the way Constable Fales seems like another man. He becomes mild-spoken and persuasive. He flatters Barker until the latter believes himself to be the most courageous and the shrewdest person in the house. And Barker finds the impression such an agreeable one that he becomes, inwardly sworn to "back up" this Fales in anything and everything that this Fales may propose.

"Now, Mr. Barker," says the constable, who has not once omitted, to add the mister to the youth's name," as a young man of observation and, as you have yourself intimated, some experience in the so-called supernatural things, *don't* you think it a little—er—odd, that a ghost should carry such a sharp knife? And that it should take such a long, hard tussle for the ghost to overcome the man of flesh and blood?"

"I always s'posed that if there was such a thing as a ghost, that they could whisk a man out of the way 'thout much fighting," Barker declares.

"That's it, Mr. Barker, exactly, and "whisk" is a good word—an expressive word, Mr. Barker. *And* as a candid man, and of experience as before intimated,

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
LAMP.

JENNISON, THE PLUMBER.

SOLE AGENT

MAGEE MYSTIC.

T. J. SULLIVAN, Mangr Sheet Iron Dept.
CHAS. SMITH, Mangr. Plumbing Dept

don't you think that a ghost that makes such a mess of trying to disembody another man's spirit would be or should be considered a rather weakish sort of ghost, at best?"

"I should say so, sir."

"Then your opinion confirms my own, Mr. Barker. And—that word of yours, 'whisk' is such a good word that you will pardon me for using it in another sense—I say don't it strike you that a ghost, still to carry out our illustration, as it were—a ghost, we will say, that with a knife, and plenty of time, and an unarmed man to contend with, and all the rest of it, who couldn't overcome his flesh and blood adversary, still had the power of whisking out of the house rather mysteriously? Window fastened— must have been smeared with blood—must have made tracks—must have been heard going down the stairs or up the stairs, and all the rest of it—and still nobody sees or hears or can find tracks! Now, Mr. Barker candidly, don't you think the afore-mentioned ghost rather unequally endowed in the way of miraculous powers?"

"I should say he was, Mr. Fales," says Mr. Barker. Upon which the constable slaps Barker on the shoulder in emphatic approval, and displays the wrinkles which enclose his mouth like marks of parentheris. These manifestations of approval on the part of Constable Fales make Mr. Barker feel that he and Fales are a pair of mighty shrewd fellows, and that Fales is greatly indebted to him—to Mr. Barker—for the ideas and suggestions which have been propounded.

"And another thing," resumes Constable Fales as they come out of Miss Pond's room and return to Mr. Fenlow's, one side of which has been curtained off and fitted up as a sort of laboratory for the invalid guest's chemical experiments, and where he evolves mysterious odors and gases during the day which he is obliged to inhale every night.

"And another thing, Mr. Barker, which I presume you have thought of and wondered if it had occurred to me, is this: now, suppose you were to be attacked in one of these rooms, we'll say by a ghost that carries a knife, what do you suppose would be the first thing you would do? Eh, Mr. Barker?"

"Let him have one between the eyes," declared Mr. Barker with a promptness which would have astonished any person less susceptible than Constable Fales.

"Exactly! Let him have one between the places where, if it were not a ghost and so needed no eyes, those organs would be located. And, suppose the ghost wasn't floored, but still persisted in its ghostly attack, and you became engaged in a deadly struggle with the said ghost, and you made up your mind that the ghost was one too many for you, as it were—what would you do next, Mr. Barker?"

Mr. Barker hesitates. He has hit the nail so squarely on the head in his answers to Constable Fales' conundrums thus far that he doesn't fancy missing now, and so impairing his reputation for sagacity. So he considers a moment.

In his heart of hearts Mr. Barker is aware that his answers which have been so happily received have been given wholly at random. So if he is really so sagacious as Constable Fales gives him the credit of being then sagacity must come from a sort of momentary inspiration, since he certainly does not figure out the results beforehand.

"What would you do next, Mr. Barker, under the conditions I have described?" repeats Constable Fales.

"I'd yell like a house afire!" says Mr. Barker, who is a little doubtful about this being the answer that is expected.

But Constable Fales sets all his doubts at rest by slapping him on the back again, and once more showing those marks of parenthesis upon each side of his mouth.

"That's it, Mr. Barker! *That's* it, sure. You'd yell like a house afire. And so would James Warfield, or this Mr. Fenlow, or anybody else that you or I ever saw or heard of. And granting this, as I shall feel constrained to do since your opinion corroborates mine, a new question arises."

Barker begins to grow uneasy. He has successfully answered so many of this man's conundrums that he would like very much to be permitted to rest on his laurels. There is danger that he may answer wrong. Even the most sagacious of us cannot always correctly anticipate the matter which is in another's mind. And Barker wishes that he might ask the questions for a time, and let Constable Fales try his hand at answering them.

"The new question," the officer continues, "is just this: if anybody else, under the conditions, would have given the alarm in one way or another, why didn't the victim do so?"

This is a poser. But Barker's former good luck prompts him to give an offhand reply, as he has done before. And so he ventures:

"It must be 'cause the ghost was choking of him so he couldn't holler."

"I declare, Mr. Barker, you're a genius," cries Constable Fales, with another approving slap.

"Or," he continues, meditatively, "it is barely possible that the victim *did* cry out, say at the beginning of the struggle, and that his brother James and the young lady being out failed to hear him. *That* is possible, don't you think so Mr. Barker?"

"Yes, it's possible. But that Fenlow says he was down-stairs all the time, you know," Barker ventured.

"So he did say so. And that sets all our conjectures at naught unless, Mr. Barker—"

And Constable Fales taps the youth on the end of his nose in a manner that is tremendously significant, and adds with gutteral emphasis:

"*Unless Mr. Fenlow lies!*

Barker doesn't know what to say to this. It is an altogether unexpected alternative. Not that he has so much confidence in the dark, sleek gentleman's veracity, but the truth is the constable's way of putting it is rather strong.

"I—I don't know what he'd be for lying about it for," Barker ventures after a moment of impressive silence.

"There is the very query that occurred to me," is Constable Fales' frank admission. "It is odd, Mr. Barker, that you and I should think of these same things in this same way, isn't it.? And about this Mr. Fenlow, I dare say it has occurred to you

W. E. PUTNEY,

SUCCESSOR TO KIRBY & PUTNEY,

FIRE INSURANCE,

162 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MASS.

Your House, Furniture, Personal and Family Effects, Stable, Horses, Vehicles, Buildings, Rents, Merchandise, Factories, Plate Glass, and Boilers, all need the protection of Insurance which is furnished by me in large or small amounts, in the best of companies, and at the lowest rates possible.

All losses settled immediately, upon satisfactory proof.

that he is devilish disagreeable, not to mince the matter. Not that I mean to be profane about it. But I don't know as there's any sin in taking the horned and hoofed gentleman's name in vain, is there? When it just expresses our meaning, you know."

"I never called that swearing," declares Barker.

Constable Fales resumes his search of this room. He is not at all gingerly in his manner of handling Mr. Fenlow's chemicals and instruments, and there seems to be some danger of science being set awry by this man's bungling fingers.

For he peers and pokes about everywhere, and looks at the most trifling things, and Barker, watching him curiously sees him put some things in his pockets. Then he goes to a closet and overhauls some of Mr. Fenlow's apparel which hangs in perfect order. And lastly he thumps lightly on the partition at the back of the closet, which emits a sound of such thinness that he pushes his investigations yet further and discovers that one of the boards of the partition is loose and can be easily removed.

He removes it. Then he steps through the opening—a tight squeeze for him, but large enough to afford an easy passage for Mr. Fenlow's slim person.

The space on the other side of the partition is also a closet. And that opens into another bedroom.

Constable Fales takes ample time in the making of these investigations, and when he comes back he has a scrap of white linen which he has clipped from something which he finds in the room beyond. It is starched linen, from a man's cuff. On the inside of the linen—the unpolished side—there are some initials. On the polished side there is a spot of blood.

Constable Fales seems to have great confidence in Barker, for he shows him this scrap of linen which he has cut out with his scissors.

"Now, that is Mr. Warfield's—the victim's—room in yonder, isn't it?" he asks, while Barker stares at the linen.

"I believe so."

"And yet these are not Mr. Warfield's initials, are they? Warfield doesn't begin with F. does it? Or does the F. stand for the -field with out the War- part of the name?"

"I—I don't b'lieve he'd have 'em put on that way," Barker falters.

"You don't, eh? Well, with my confidence in you, Mr. Barker, I shall have to accept your verdict. And now, whose name *does* begin with F.? Can you tell me?"

"Why—Fenlow, doesn't it?"

"I declare, I was stupid not to think of that, wasn't I? Lucky I took you along to keep my wits balanced tonight. The pair of us makes quite a team, doesn't it?"

And Constable Fales leads Barker from the room, having replaced the loose board in the partition, and then knocks on the door of the room where the struggle occurred, and asks to see Doctor Tripp.

(To be continued.)

To Dress Well
IS ECONOMY.

Well-made, perfect-fitting garments are not only pleasing to the eye but are much more serviceable than cheap and poorly fitting garments and therefore cost less in the long run.

We are fully alive to the fact and we are prepared to show our customers the best possible values for their money.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

A. R. CHILTON,

FIRST-CLASS

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TELEPHONE 22-3.

7 LAUREL ST.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.

TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.

5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,

TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.

37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS

Dining Rooms, Etc.

HOTEL WESTMORELAND.

25 TO 29 DAY STREET.

Ladies' and Gents' Dining Rooms. Board by the day or week. Good rooms, polite attention and good service. Everything first-class.

F. W. ALDRICH, Prop'r.

HOWARTH'S RESTAURANT.

FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

40 DAY STREET.

First-class service and reasonable rates. Board by the day or week

JOHN HOWARTH, Propr.

DRURY'S DINING ROOMS.

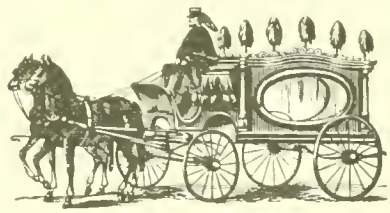
144 MAIN STREET.

BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.

For Ladies and Gentlemen.

First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests

G. E. HAYWARD, Propr.



H. A. LESURE. F. D. LESURE.

LESURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 DAY ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

T. C. SEED & CO.,

FINE TAILORS

NEW ARRIVAL OF

Spring and Summer Suits, Overcoats and Trowsering.

ALL THE LATEST AND MOST FASHIONABLE PATTERNS.

An early inspection is invited. Our prices are satisfactory to all who desire good goods.

NO. 357 MAIN ST.

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notes of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything recording the social side of the city's doings.]

The New England Cremation Society held its third meeting on Tuesday evening at 77 Boylston St. Boston. 25 new members were admitted. A paper on "Cremation" was read by Miss Marion H. Brazier, sister of Councilman Frederick W. Brazier of this city. Anyone wishing to join the society can, by communicating with Mr. John Storer Cobb, learn full particulars. Mr. Cobb can be addressed at the Nationalist rooms 77 Boylston St. and will be glad to meet anyone there, any day except Saturday.

We have only a few remarks to say in reply to Councilman Sheehan's remarks, Tuesday evening. We claim the right to criticise and shall continue to do so. We shall try to do it in a spirit of fairness, but we shall criticise and Mr. Sheehan has a perfect right to criticise us, we expect to come in for a share of it. Regarding the alleged insults, a little reflection will convince anyone that so far as the present mayor is concerned the article is pretty near the mark, regarding the former mayor—well, the people very emphatically answered that last December. Now, if the the article in question is a *screed*, what is it to get up in meeting and recklessly charge a man with lobbying because he comes to notify another member that a meeting will not be held as expected. As Mr. Sheehan has taken a more determined and active part in this paving matter than any one else, the charge of lobbying on this occasion makes people smile. We are quite willing to admit that he is a well informed and able councilman, and that he has always faithfully attended to the business of his board, but he is liable to be mistaken occasionally like other people. There was delay and trouble over the School street school house, the West Fitchburg school house, the Main street paving under the late Mayor Cully, and the Water street paving, but the work was eventually done in each case. It will be so in this case. To Councilman Farrar we would say any information about the paper or its contents that the people have a right to know will cheerfully be given upon proper application. To both of these gentlemen we would say our shingle hangs out at 360 Main street and we do not expect to pull it in yet awhile.

Fitchburg boys have been specially honored in connection with the extermination of the gypsy moth in Medford and vicinity. Mr. R. E. Kimball of the Fitchburg High School, and Ira G. Greene of Amherst Agricultural College, son of C. H. Greene of this city, have both been appointed on the staff of the commission as assistants, the former by application and the latter from the college. Mr. Kimball has a number of excellent recommendations from Senators Thayer and Pinkerton, Representatves Kimball and Appleton, Prof. Beal, late Professor of Zoology at the Agricultural College, Iowa, Prof. Hartwell of the F. H. S., Principal Chapin, and one on ability as an artist by Mr. Briggs supervisor of drawing at the High School. Ira G. Greene is well known as a young man of exceptional attainments. Mr. Kimball was a contestant in the gold watch contest given recently by this paper and his article on the English sparrow, published three weeks ago, came near winning the prize. We hope shortly to publish an article on birds from his pen, this being a subject he has specially studied. We wish both young men every success in their new undertaking. Mr. Greene will act as a superintendent.

Thursday, Lovering & Co., whose advertisement may be found in another column opened their store in Dickerson's new block, corner of Main and Laurel streets. The store is a large and well lighted one, is well stocked with every class of new goods and presents a very handsome appearance. Associated with Mr. Lovering will be the following gentleman clerks: John D. Burr, formerly with Farnsworth Bros.; J. F. Butman, late with Mr. Gorham of Leominster: J. C. McMullen, late with Mr. Boutwell at South Fitchburg, and R. C. Smith, late with E. G. Stowe: Miss N. A. Lovekin, formerly with W. L. Douglass of Brockton, is book-keeper. Mr. Lovering and his assistants have put in considerable over time this week getting the store and windows into presentable shape and have succeeded in making a very fine display. We welcome the new firm and hope they will find substantial encouragement from our own citizens and those of the surrounding towns.

Suppose Main street were paved with money raised directly from the liquor traffic when completed it could be pointed to triumphantly as a direct benefit of our license policy, and used by some as a clinching argument in further advancing that policy. If the money is used in various directions such an argument is not so effective. There is no need to fear that uses will not be found for the money, no matter into what account it goes. There are always some unexpected calls for money which sum up to thousands. There are members of both Boards who believe in License, but who are of opinion that it is not wise to give license money too great a hold on the city. The city may want to change the policy next year and streets will have to be built and kept in repair whether we have or have not License. Anyway it is well to keep the traffic well under control..

The following ladies and gentlemen will compose the cast for the production of "Babie" at the opera house, Fast day.

Harry Ward, Babie himself,.....H. L. Chase.
Henry Skelter, Babie's cousin's husband, F. B. Farrar.
Mr. Herodotus Cram, Babie's tutor, W. L. Walker.
Mr. Octavus Ward, Babie's papa,.....Ed. A. Brown.
Charlie Wilkins, Babie's chum, John R. Oldfield.
Hairdresser,.....Milton Cushing.
Mrs. Diana Skelter, Babie's cousin, Miss Jessie Hosmer.
Mrs. Octavus Ward, Babie's mamma, Mrs. H. L. Chase.
Madame Aurelia, Babie's friend,...Miss J. M. Grant.
Annie Belle, Charlie's friend,.....Miss. Issie Brooks.
Susan,.....Miss Fannie E. Gressenich.

The agitation over the establishment of a Market Day seems to have dropped almost out of sight. The members of the Merchant's Association have the matter in hand, or rather a committee appointed by the association was instructed to further consult with the Fitchburg railroad company with a view of obtaining reduced rates of transportation once a week to and from the surrounding towns. Wake up, gentlemen, wake up. The only way to gain your point is to prove to the railroad company that you are very much in earnest.

Wheelman are just beginning to show themselves in numbers. The agents of the various companies making wheels are commencing to advertise their wheels and to sum up the season's prospects. Messrs. Allen and Spinney offer the Giant, a capital wheel; Charles Anderson claims attention for his Victor; Bowker & Holland have three excellent wheels which they will be pleased to show; and A. B. Lawrence & Co. offer the Rambler on very inviting terms. Intending purchasers will do well to consult the local agents before going elsewhere. All are prepared to make good trades on the most reasonable terms.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE

Office Toilet Supply Service?

FURNISHED BY THE

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO.

229 MAIN STREET.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

Remember that tickets for "The Drummer Boy" are now on sale.

The "Victor" bicycle in H. E. Jennison's window attracts a good share of attention. It is a certainly novel advertising feature.

The firm of Keating & Leonard has been dissolved and W. H. Keating will continue the business alone in the rooms over the late firm's former store.

A cottage in Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.'s window, made by Edward Caouette, is a source of much interest to the young folks. It is a capital piece of work.

J. E. Thompson advertises the new magic pocket dime savings bank. This is a new fad among the ladies of the great cities. See particulars in another column.

Nichols & Frost have a very pretty window display of handkerchiefs and one lady suggests that the "handkerchief carnival" would be a good title for the display.

E. B. Macy has received a large consignment of Riverside oranges and lemons from California. The fruit is said to be exceptionally fine and is now on exhibition in his store. See adv.

F. O. Willard will have a beautiful exhibition of flowers and Easter lilies at his Grove street greenhouses commencing Tuesday next. Lovers of flowers will do well to pay him a visit.

Supposing that Fitchburg's 400 circle is now full and complete, and an important part of the 400 leaves town, say for instance the two figures following the four, what a calamity that would be for the 400.

The pictures of the cast of characters for the performance of "Babie," to be presented at the opera house, Fast day, will be on exhibition about Monday. One frame will probably be placed in W. F. Lovering's new window, one in G. M. Faulkner's and one in one of the large windows "up town."

Now that another busy shopping season is about to arrive, each one of us hopes to be able to buy our spring clothes without any passage of arms with the clerk behind the counter, who now and then tells his customers what they ought to wear. The majority of salesmen and saleswomen are almost always polite, but now and then there is one who can put the bravest customer to flight.

Plans for the new Mitchel gingham mill are completed and contractors will shortly be invited to bid for the construction of the new plant. Work will commence as soon as the frost leaves the ground.

The Fitchburg Gas company will shortly remove their office from the present location at 331 Main street to the store on the opposite side of street, No. 316 formerly occupied by E. W. Willis as a furniture store.

Mthough this has been a hard winter the expenses of the outside department of the overseers of the poor have not been as heavy as last year. The sickness caused by la grippe was the cause of the extra expense last year.

In Boston "really and truly" Florida strawberries bring about $1 a box. In Lowell 50 cents is deemed a sufficient tax, but Fitchburg can go this one better Brother Macy having been able to dispose of some at 25 cents.

Miss Anna C. Burt, teacher of vocal music, is at present visiting in Adams, Mass., but will return about April 1 and will resume teaching in this city. Miss Burt has been engaged to sing alto at the C. C. church for the coming year.

"I saw your ad. in TOWN TALK." Every reader sees every advertisement in TOWN TALK. No large pages with a swamp of heterogenous display. Everything within easy reach of the eye. Reading matter or illustrations opposite every advertisement page. Don't forget this when advertising.

We are informed that Mrs. Bullock is not the oldest person in the city. A Mrs. Shea residing in Boyle Court, Water street, is said to be between 101 and 105 years of age. Her children are not able to give her exact age, but it is known that she is over 100 years. If her relatives care to furnish her picture we will put it in TOWN TALK.

The arrangements for the Forester's annual ball are now completed and everything promises a successful gathering. The young Court of Foresters has already gained a reputation for entertaining and this year seems in a fair way of exceeding all previous efforts. The fact that supper is to be served in the hall will please many and Caterer James is too well known to need advertizing. Patrons may rest assured of a good time and full value for the money invested.

W. H. KEATING,

BARBER,

173 MAIN ST., - - - UP STAIRS.

Come in and see us. Cosy and comfortable quarters and prompt attention.

YOU ARE INVITED

to examine our

NEW SPRING STYLES

—IN—

SPRING OVERCOATS,

Suits and Pantaloons,

—ALSO—

The new blocks in Stiff Hats.

We have also a fine assortment of choice styles in Neckties.

Our spring stock is the finest we have ever had the pleasure of showing.

Don't miss seeing our new goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

ONE PRICE, SQUARE DEALING

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

BUTTER IS HIGH.

Try something that takes the place of butter.

BUTTERINE.

—AT—

The Public Markets.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r.

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

M. W. CUMMINGS,

Undertaker & Embalmer.

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

COFFINS, CASKETS, AND FUNERAL FURNISHINGS.

ROOMS AT 211 MAIN STREET.

RESIDENCE, 57 LAUREL ST.

Chairs to let for Funerals and other occasions.

TELEPHONE.

211 Main St., - - - FITCHBURG, MASS

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

BOSTON, Mar. 21, 1891.

We have been eating our peck, more or less, of dust during the week, and it has been anything but agreeable to mouth, nostrils, eyes, or ears, to say nothing of the possible germs of disease penetrating our lungs. For infinite variety our New England climate beats the world. Two weeks ago it was slush, overshoes, and snow-slides, while during the past week the general demand has been for street sprinklers, but alas we must wait until May 1st. In the meantimes the doctors smile, while the undertakers take a grave view.

Of course the readers of TOWN TALK have heard about the new "White Train" which the N. Y. & N. E. road sends out every day at 3 o'clock. It was my privilege to spend an hour on board last Monday and I assure you it is a beauty. Just imagine seven white Pullman cars, consisting of a combination, baggage, parlor car, smoker, dining car, two passenger coaches, and three parlor cars, all new, beautifully fitted up, with every modern convenience, heated by steam and lighted by gas, furnished by the Pintsch gas system. The entire train is painted white, decorated with gold and no wonder it is called the "Ghost" or "Hearse train." Pullman pattern No. 6 four-wheeled trucks are used with paper wheels. An innovation is the bell or whistle rope. It is a light cord passing through the train, which when pulled blows the whistle on the locomotive. The parlor cars are furnished with velvet carpets, silk draperies of dull gold and olive and white silk curtains, at the broad plate glass windows. There are 26 chairs of rattan upholstered in old gold plush. The passenger coaches seat 60 persons and the seats are unusually comfortable with high backs. The royal buffet smoker, for the exclusive use of parlor car passengers will be greatly appreciated. This train has a sister leaving N. Y. simultaneously. The run is made in six hours. This train can be seen any day at the depot foot of Summer street until 3 p. m.

Ex-President Hayes and his son are visiting Boston. They are quartered at the Vendome.

How many of you know how the word "Tiddledy Winks" originated? Was told the other day that it was a parliamentary slang term, applying to members, who resort to small means to gain large ends. So you see it is "quite English, you know."

A Buenos Ayres newspaper was handed me the other day, containing a letter on the currency question, written by Mr. C. S. Bowers, a brother to Mr. Bowers the popular School street grocer. This gentleman, an American, has lived in the Argentine Republic 30 years and the skill with which he has handled the topic, which has so agitated financial circles, makes me proud to own him as a countyman. A little more "Yankee" out there is needed.

The Grippe fiend is quartered at the State Prison, and has paid a visit to Jesse Pomeroy. May she remain within doors during her visit. Her welcome was worn out last year.

The Easter offerings this year eclipse all previous efforts, especially those of that celebrated designer and publisher L. Prang. The samples shown at their office, over Bigelow Kennards on West street are worthy of more than passing mention, but want of space forbids. The Fitchburg dealers will do well to call there. Mr. Thomas Merrells, the agent is always on hand.

Horizontal drinks have the day. The question was settled by a secret conference of the Republican legislators. Josiah Quincy says the bill is ambiguous, and meant to be.

A very brilliant meeting of the New England Woman's Press Association was held at the Parker House on Wednesday afternoon. A paper on Keats was read by Miss Louise Imogene Guiney. After the tea, several vocal selections were pleasingly rendered. Any ladies desiring to join the association may obtain full information by addressing the secretary, Miss Belle Grant Armstrong 157 Newbury street Boston, Mass.

Meeting a gentleman from your city who had a severe cold, it was my first impulse to suggest a remedy, then it occurred to me, he might have seen the following; Gilliendy (knowingly)—"Got a cold, eh? What have you been taking for it?" Jimson (wearily)—"O, advice from 200 or 300 cranks." And Gilliendy changed the subject.—[Times. Your correspondent, like "Gilliendy" changed the subject and struck out into a new *field* leaving the old one alone.

Has Fitchburg the spoon craze? The idea is not so bad, considering the very useful and pretty souvenir a spoon furnishes. Ladies are slowly picking up rare specimens in their travels and each city and town must have one design at least. Through the courtesy of Mr. Simmons the popular clerk of Shreve, Crump & Low was shown samples of all, now in the market and some are beautiful indeed, with oxydized handles and gold bowls, of various shapes and sizes. Our "Boston" spoon shows several designs, including an engraved "hub" or "bean pot," while the handles have historic buildings upon them. Salem, has scenes from witchcraft days. Plymouth, the Mayflower. New York, Liberty Statue and Knickerbocker designs. Rhode Island, Roger Williams. So on to the end of the list. These spoons are reasonable in price and make a very sensible gift.

The Easter display of Galvin Bros. eclipses anything hitherto attempted by these enterprising florists.

Bernhardt took away more than $43,000. No wonder she went away happy, surrounded by her dime-museum accompaniments and her 52 trunks!

As Fitchburg furnished the "Buzz saw" used in "Blue Jeans" it may interest you to read the item concerning it in another column. The play is very exciting, and finely acted.

MARION HOWARD.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

Winter is departing, and spring is near at hand. *April, May and June of 1890* was by far the *best* business we ever knew in the *ten years* that we have sold goods in Fitchburg, thanks to the good people of this city.

We hope to make the spring of 1891 better than the last, and if *good goods, good work, with low prices* will do it, *we shall have it.*

Everybody reads Town Talk from *beginning to the end*, advertisements and all, so we can keep you posted.

We have had more than 35 years experience in the millinery business and think we know something about it. When you come and patronize us, you will think so too.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

A. E. ROGERS,

366 MAIN STREET,

Watches,

Diamonds,

Jewelry.

SOLID SILVER AND SILVER-PLATED WARE

SPECTACLES AND EYE-GLASSES.

366 Main St., Corner Central St.

Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired.

Leominster Breezes

There are many things to take up our attention, yet neither lectures, concerts, or calico ball suffice to keep from our minds the thought of town meeting. Shall we have a license? Perhaps yes, perhaps no. This is a question of importance to the wives and mothers in Leominster, but, alas, they cannot vote upon it. I suppose they are not intelligent enough. To settle such a question it takes many men like the ones who went to the polls and voted for M. A. Greenwood as our representative and on coming away enquired, "does he go to New York or Washington?"

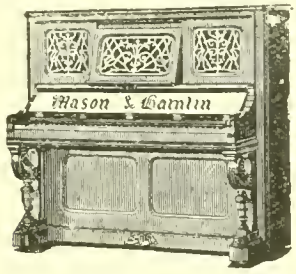
A licensed grog-shop is not an ornament to any community, and because Fitchburg and Clinton have one, or a hundred, is no reason why we should sanction it here. Not a man or woman in Leominster but knows that the law can be enforced. The druggist to be sure, can be given leave by the selectmen, and probably will be, to sell by the gill, pint, quart or gallon. But ladies, here is your chance; dont cry for "rights" until you have courage to do what you are given the power to do now. Every wife whose husband gets his liquor of the druggist, and every mother whose son does the same, may have the selectmen forbid every druggist in town to sell them a drop. Then with a police officer who is watchful, firm and unyielding, this feature of the rum question is changed. Don't vote for a license, but vote for someone strong and true enough to make the law of prohibition something more than a dead letter.

Another question before us is the Public Park question. Will the tax-payers think it such a "grand idea" to raise $20,000 for the Pond street property? Guess not. Let the owners if they are public spirited enough, present this land to the town, and when the inhabitants are able to spend $20,000 more to fit it up, it will be time to speak about it. The cranks are always full of nonsensical absurdities. No one can tell as yet in what shape our streets will appear to the public gaze. When sewers are adjusted as the ground is freezing, extra work that is not done for nothing is the consequence.

Last year North Leominster did not want a police officer. Now the people begin to think that two or three would not be out of the way. The Marshal Hotel and the Marshal farm-house are making things a little too lively.

In social matters the Leominster Club stands ahead. The Bon ton, the Elite of this community has had a grand blow out. It is "the thing you know," to go from home for anything nicey and pricy, so the Caterer came from Waltham, Toasts were in order, and the responses were ably rendered. Ladies were admitted, and were much surprised at the rich furniture and ornamentations that met their eyes. Will tell you more of this Club, and the difference between it and some others in town, next time.

LEOM.



IT IS A FACT

—THAT AT—

CHAFFIN'S

You cay buy Musical Goods of all descriptions at a less price than any other place in Worcester County,

—including—

PIANOS & ORGANS

From the best makers and on easy terms of payments.

Their facilities for handling goods are unsurpassed, and their *Warerooms* replete with all the latest musical publications and musical goods.

Affable clerks are in attendance, and goods not on hand will be promptly ordered.

Tuning and Repairing by experienced workmen.

WAREROOMS:

157 MAIN STREET. 157

Telephone Connection.

NOTHING LIKE

Honduras Sarsaparilla

—FOR A—

SPRING MEDICINE.

$.75 a bottle: 3 bottles for $2.00.

Prepared only by

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST. 207 MAIN ST.

GREAT SALE

—OF—

20,549 YARDS

TOILE DU NORD

Parkhill Ginghams.

These are from Six to Twenty Yard Lengths, and are perfect goods. We shall offer them for this sale, at

9 cts. a Yard.

☞ Regular retail price on these goods is 12 1-2 cts. a yard.

RARE

BARGAINS!

We have placed on counters in our Cloak Room, our entire stock of Fancy Goods from the Holiday trade, and marked them all

HALF-PRICE.

This will give our customers an opportunity to buy choice things in Vases and China, at prices never before seen in Fitchburg.

Our Dress-Making Dept.

Now open for

SPRING ORDERS.

Nichols & Frost.

Sole Agts. for the Butterick Publishing Co.'s Patterns for this Vicinity.

COMMUNICATION.

To the Editor of TOWN TALK.

Dear Sir:—

Will you be kind enough to make a slight correction of a statement of the interview with me published last week. I called attention to the fact that two years ago the state inspector pronounced the arrangements for ventilation in the Day street, High street and West Fitchburg grammar schools "entirely insufficient" and said that nothing had been done about the matter. I was wrong about the High street school. Improvements have been made within a few months in that building. I have within a few days examined the system of ventilation and sanitary arrangements of the school and, as well as I can judge, they are in very good condition. I am not sure that the inspector would not find them defective even yet but it is safe to say that they are better than in many of our dwelling houses. A great deal of credit is due to Mr. Grout for this improvement. Still we are not at a place even at High street where we may stop improving. With regard to the other two buildings my statement stands undisputed.

Very truly yours,
FRANK O. HALL.

After a personal visit to Rollstone street school we are able to state that the arrangements there are now vastly superior to the old plan. There is scarcely any perceptible odor and Mr. Grout states that the Highland avenue and Maverick street schools have the same sanitary arrangements. Mr. Grout is very anxious to have the buildings in the best possible condition and he is deserving of credit for the work he has done. ED.

CONRIED'S OPERA COMPANY.

This company, which made a great success at the Casino New York and at the Hollis Street theatre, Boston, has just returned from a successful Southern tour. When in Boston the *Globe* said of it: "It is from a romantic scale of life and love among Hungarian gypsy folks and others of far higher station that the Waltz King, Strauss, has drawn the theme with his famous opera "The Gypsy Baron" he has aimed higher in this really brilliant opera, than in any of his lyric essays. Indeed the score is often so elaborate that it is worthy in its harmony, rhythm and combined effects of grand opera. Waltz movements are there in abundance or the opera would not sound like Strauss." One of the chief features is its song and the topical song "These Words No Shakepeare Wrote" "Brings down the house." The company carries its own orchestra.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

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EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

$10,000

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TRAVELERS - INSURANCE - CO.

Costs only $133.50 annually.

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IF NOT, WHY NOT?

Do you know how much valuable time you can save by the use of a Rubber Stamp?

We can furnish anything in the stamp line that is made and meet any prices of first-class manufacturers.

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SECRET SOCIETY GOODS,

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We guarantee this machine and *warrant* it for one year. *Terms easy.*

EXAMINE IT IN OUR WINDOW.

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All the New Styles

—IN—

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BEST QUALITIES.
LOWEST PRICES.

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Blank Books Made to Order.

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360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

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One carload just received, consisting of

Florida Mandarins Oranges,
Florida Tangerines Oranges,
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Florida Grape Oranges,
Riverside Cal. Navel Oranges,
Catania Oranges,
Catania Blood Oranges,
Messina Blood Oranges,
Palermo Blood Oranges,
Valencia Oranges.

The above is the first car of fruit ever received in this city.

—AT—

MACY'S.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

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BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

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NIAGARA FALLS,

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THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
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For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, 43.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at ‡7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, 48.10 and 11.30 a. m., ‡2.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at ‡4.50 p. m.

‡Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
. N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect, Rev. W. H. Pierson, pastor, residence 62 Mt. Vernon street. Services at 10.30 a. m., Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a.m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.15, prayer meeting in the chapel; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor, theme, "Honor all Men" 11.50 a. m. Bible School; 4 p. m., Swedish service with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, The Gospel service with short sermon by the pastor All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor. At 12 m., Sunday School. 7. p m., service of praise and prayer All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a.m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street Preaching at 10.30 by Rev. C. E. Holmes of Lunenburg; Sunday School at 12; general praise and prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Service at 10.30 a. m., preaching by the pastor, subject, "Ashamed of the Noblest." At 7 a. m. the pastor will speak upon amusements from the standpoint of one who believes in them. Sunday School at 12 m. Young People's meeting at 6 p. m. All are welcome.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m.; subject "The Blessed Hope" evening service at 7p. m., subject, "The Damnation of Hell" Preaching by R. C. Brown Sunday School at 12 m. All are cordially invited.

Rollstone Church (Congregational), corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service at 10.30 a. m. sermon by the pastor, text "For so He Giveth His Beloved Sleep" 12 m. Sunday School, 7 p. m., People's service, sermon by the pastor, Topic, "What shall the Home do for Boys and Girls?" Public cordially invited

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

FITCHBURG

Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

Office: No. 6 Savings Bank Block,

352 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

AMASA NORCROSS, President,
H. G. MORSE, Vice-Pres. and Treas.
EDWARD P. DOWNE, Secretary.

Board of Directors for 1891.

Amasa Norcross,	Fitchburg,
William A. Macurda,	"
B. F. Wallis,	"
Rodney Wallace,	"
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F. E. Woodward,	"
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Lyman C. Albee,	"
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IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

Conried's Opera company at the Opera house.

TUESDAY.

"The Drummer Boy" at city hall.

WEDNESDAY.

"The Drummer Boy" at city hall.

THURSDAY.

"The Drummer Boy" at city hall.

Mrs. Howard's dancing class at G. A. R. hall.

FRIDAY.

Lilly Clay's beauties at the Opera house Good Friday.

JUST RECEIVED!

The following latest styles of frizzes, Nadjy, $1.75, Patti, $2.50 and Peola, $3.00. These have the same effect as one's own hair cut and curled. Can guarantee these to be first-class in every respect.

I have on hand six dozen of new wrappers in dark and light, ranging in price from $.50 to $2.00.

AT THE

CITY HAIR STORE,

183 Main Street, Up Stairs.

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER.

EVERYBODY LIKES

HUNT'S BEST.

Joslin sells it.

A. & R. Loggie's

BEST BLUEBERRIES

2 Cans for 25 cts.

One Gallon Can

—OF—

Best Baldwin Apple

—FOR—

33 CENTS.

REGULAR 60 CT. TEA

—FOR—

45 cts. a pound.

—AT—

JOSLIN'S O. L. P. G.

TO BE GIVEN AWAY.

PARLOR SUIT

OF SIX PIECES, Custom Work, and Made by

FERDINAND & AUSTIN.

DO YOU WANT IT?

HOW TO GET IT.

Do your trading with the following representative firms. Every 25-cent purchase entitles you to one card. Be sure and ask for it when the purchase is made. At the expiration of three months (April 25, 1891,) the person holding the greatest number of cards will receive the PARLOR SUIT FREE OF CHARGE. Remember the cards are obtained only at the following stores.

Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers, 219 and 221 Main St
A. L. Williams & Co., Grocers, 153 & 155 Main St
H. A. Goodrich & Co., Clothiers, 149 & 151 Main St
T. S. Maloon & Co., Pharmacists, 174 Main St
E. E. Staples, Dry Goods, 178 Main St
J. E. Thompson, Stationer, American House Block
O. S. Rice & Co., Jewelers, 5 American House Block
L. A. Cousins, Public Market, 177 & 374 Main St.
E. E. Howard, Photographer rooms in Dickinson's New Block, Main St
A. R. Ordway, Coal Dealer, off Putnam St
The Hub Boot and Shoe Store, 169 Main St
A. L. Davis, Livery Stable, 10 Oliver St
A. A. Buxton, Paper Hangings, and House Decorations, 209 Main St.
Blossom Street Restaurant, 7 Blossom St

Parlor Suit on Exhibition at, and all Tickets must be returned to Ferdinand & Austin, House Furnishers.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.
NUMBER 13.

FITCHBURG, MASS., MARCH 28, 1891.

$2.00 PER YEAR.
5 CENTS A COPY.

FREE

PHOTOGRAPHS!

ONE DOZEN

CABINET OR BOUDOIR

Photographs

FROM THE

STUDIO OF J. C. MOULTON,

Free to any Customer, by the Following Plan:

To any purchaser of our goods to the value of $50, or more, we give an order for ONE DOZEN CABINET PHOTOGRAPHS, and if the purchase amounts to $100, or more, an order for ONE DOZEN BOUDOIR PHOTOGRAPHS.

The pictures will be Mr. Moulton's best work. Cash sales and sales on time count alike, and the orders are given when the sale is made.

Chamber Sets for $12.50, $13.50, and $14.50, in Solid Ash.

Complete line of House Keeping goods for Cash or on time by our Special System of Credit.

PHILBROOK HOUSE FURNISHING COMPANY,

Successors to CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

MR. HERBERT L. CHASE AS "BABIE."

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

Those who are accustomed to seeing Mr. Chase Jnr. in his father's store will hardly recognize him in the disguise above. In his usual attire in the store, and even when he has one of Babbit's best razors over his face, he is a decided brunette, but in the picture given above he is a blonde. As an amateur Thespian he has made quite a record and three pictures taken in different characters bear so little resemblance that an expert would find it hard to trace much resemblance to the obliging young optician. Babie is an adaption from the French and shows Harry Ward, a young man 22 years old, at home in the presence of papa and mamma and in his own room out of their presence. His father and mother look upon him as a young man of exceptional simplicity and innocence, but he is in fact "one of the boys." He likes to go out and smoke, play billiards, buy presents for the ladies and in fact enjoy himself in every way his means will allow. A private tutor is engaged for him; but he rather enjoys that as he can make a little amusement out of him. The tutor is also a jolly fellow in spite of his solemn aspect and as for Mr. Ward senior,—well his son's capers remind him of his own younger days.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

W. L. Douglas, the Brockton shoe king has taken out a $100,000 life insurance policy. It is an endowment policy, payable in fifteen years.

Death removed one of the clerks of the World's Fair last week and Major Handy at once appointed his widow to the vacancy. The widows think he is a handy fellow to have around.

A little girl, in order to prove that it is wrong to cut off the tails of horses and dogs, quoted the scriptural injunction, "What God has joined together let no man put asunder."

More than a hundred writers in England, male and female, have written the life of Gladstone and have the manuscript all ready, so they can rush to a publishing house with it the moment his death is announced.

The peach crop promises to be a large one, and Delaware peach growers are, consequently, more than happy. The crop was almost a total failure last year, etc.—[Lowell Courier. Ah! we thought it was about time to hear something about the peach crop.

It cost the United States at least $100,000 for the burial expenses of the late Senator Hearst, the Californian millionnaire. Reform in public funerals is absolutely necessary apparently.

In the valise of a tourist to Greenland was a big red apple, and the custom house men, having never seen one before, and being unable to find anyone who had, took it for a bomb and made the tourist sit down and eat it. They were quite put out when he didn't explode and shatter things.

The pocket savings bank is a device to be commended heartily to every young fellow who experiences the common burning sensation that small change causes in the pockets of the average American youth. It is calculated only for dimes, and is a tube, the dimes being pushed into a slot at the top. It will not open until 50 of the dimes have been dropped into the the slot, and the $5 can be taken out

A woman's champion in the Kansas legislature who calls himself "Duncan of Pumpkin," thus delivered himself: "I am a dude, and I part my hair in the middle. I favor taking women from the ranks of the idots and imbeciles and allowing them to occupy the same rank as the gentlemen from Africa." He seems to have an ambition to be as comical as Ingalls.

A certain Dr. Potts, a woman, lectured on that old, yet ever new, subject, "Love and marriage" in a Kentucky city the other night. She argued that a man should carry on his courtship in the day time rather than by night. If he is selecting anything else he does so by daylight and in making the most important selection of his life it is essential that he does not effect it in the dark. What could that woman know about courtship and love to propose so absurd a scheme! Why the greater part of the romance of love lies in its shadowy nature, and to expose it to the glory of day-light would be pure blasphemy. Moreover to consider it practically the average man indulging in visions of marriage finds out that he must devote his days to provide for the increased expenses that taking a partner would entail. Perhaps it would be better if Dr. Potts and other of her calibre, would quit making such ridiculous attempts at reform. No one yet has discovered how love can be led, excepting perhaps the eastern nation who have built a track for it and force people on it. But here in this land of liberty such nations are preposterous.—[Ex.

The only practical Spring Frame.

35 Different Models

—FOR—

Ladies, Gents and Boys,

$35.00 or upwards.

THE HARTFORD

For Ladies and Gents.

$100.00. (Warranted.)

Also, a full line of sundries.

BOWKER & HOLLAND,

162 MAIN STREET.

Stock Larger and Better Than Ever Before.

$10,000

Worth of new Spring Goods now coming in.

A SPECIALTY

Recently purchased from one of the best houses in the country.

An immense pile of Business Suits which we propose to sell at the uniform price of

$10 PER SUIT.

This line includes Fine Worsted, All Wool Cassimeses in different shades; All Wool Cheviots in Sack Suits, Frock Suits and Cutaways in all the latest designs; all to be sold at $10 per Suit.

Many of these would be cheap at $15 but they all go in at $10 per Suit.

We have also every grade of Dress Suits at most reasonable prices.

Whatever you read, whatever you see, don't forget this.

That H. A. Goodrich & Co. will not be undersold.

That the Goods they offer are the best in the market.

That they guarantee satisfaction every time.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

YOU ARE INVITED

to examine our

NEW SPRING STYLES

—IN—

SPRING OVERCOATS,

Suits and Pantaloons,

—ALSO—

The new blocks in Stiff Hats.

We have also a fine assortment of choice styles in Neckties.

Our spring stock is the finest we have ever had the pleasure of showing.

Don't miss seeing our new goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

ONE PRICE, SQUARE DEALING

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

A clergyman, meeting a little boy, said, "This is quite a stormy day, my son." "Yes, sir," said the boy, "this is quite a wet rain." The clergyman asked him if he ever heard of other than wet rain. "I never knew personally of any other," said the boy, "but I have read in a certain Book of a time when it rained fire and brimstone, and I guess that was not a wet rain." The boy had a mischevous look and the Rev. gentleman did not consider it wise to pursue the investigation.

Bachelors and spinsters should ponder the precepts of Rabbi Schindler's sermon on the importance of getting married, and after they have done so let them overhaul their Thackeray and find where the eminent novelist says that a man who waits to make his chosen woman happy until he can drive her to church in a carriage with a pair of horses is no better than a coward, who is neither worthy of love nor of fortune.—[Ex.

One of our readers says: You are supposed to know everything, you newspaper men, and I want to know what a fellow is going to do to find a place to live in Fitchburg. I am house hunting this Spring, and the first question everybody asks who has a house to rent is, "any children," and when I answer, yes, the jig is up, and I have to move on. Now I see that there are a great many clubs, societies, associations, etc., being formed to do all sorts of things, and wouldn't it be a good plan to have a club, a society or something to take this thing into consideration and see whether men like me must kill or give away our children or go West and grow up with the Country? My wife and myself are rather averse to disposing of our children, but we can't live out doors, you know, and it is not convenient to buy or build and so there it is. Now I know that children may knock off a little paint now and then, but all the same the men and woman who rent houses were children once and wouldn't have been landlords now if they hadn't been allowed to live somewhere. Now if any of TOWN TALK readers can help reconcile the apparent "irrepressible conflict" between landlords and children please let him or her speak out, and greatly oblige a

HOUSE HUNTER.

THE CYCLER'S COLUMN.

The prospects of this being a prosperous cycling season appear to be exceptionally good, and the number and variety of of wheels will be considerably larger than last year. Charles Anderson, agent for the Columbia, has placed three machines and has orders for two or three others. Mr. Anderson is very enthuiastic over cushion tires. His wheels are high priced, but he claims exceptional merits for them. Allen & Spinney are pushing the "Giant," a lower priced wheel, but for the money, $85., it is a capital machine. A. B. Lawrence presents the American Rambler, and advertises liberal terms to purchasers. Bowker & Holland have put out nearly half a dozen machines and make a specialty of the Hartford and Union. For $135, they promise a machine that cannot be equalled for the money. As soon as the weather puts the roads into good travelling condition the wheelmen will be out in full force. Ferdinand & Austin have accepted the agency for the Lovell Diamond, an $85 machine said to be equal to anything offered in the Country at the price. All the agents are ready to sell on regular installments to reliable parties.

A. J. Wellington of Boston sends the following to the Bicycling *World*: "There is now good reason to hope for the roads of Worcester county. The enterprising citizens of Spencer have voted to purchase a stone-crusher and steam road roller, and the road commissioners, following the example of Melrose, have selected a complete macadam plant of the "Gates" manufacture and have employed an expert road builder to start them right. The other towns and cities in the county will please take notice."

The Norombega Wheel Club of Newtonville has adopted the new League uniform, and will appear in its new garb on Fast Day.

Elwell, of touring fame, is arranging a ladies' European trip. The tour will embrace some of the finest riding in France and Germany, and the daily runs will average 25 miles. The party will leave New York about the middle of August, returning in October. The cost of the trip is estimated at $300.

The Somerville Cycle Club, or rather the club of 100 members, as Secretary Cartwright is anxious to have all know, is now considering whether its members shall wear a uniform of blue, black, gray or yellow material. The members will probably decide in favor of the new League color, or something similar thereto.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., Fitchburg.

Winter is departing, and spring is near at hand. *April, May and June of 1890* was by far the *best* business we ever knew in the *ten years* that we have sold goods in Fitchburg, thanks to the good people of this city.

We hope to make the spring of 1891 better than the last, and if *good goods, good work, with low prices* will do it, *we shall have it.*

Everybody reads Town Talk from *beginning to the end*, advertisements and all, so we can keep you posted.

We have had more than 35 years experience in the millinery business and think we know something about it. When you come and patronize us, you will think so too.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

BROWNELL & MASON,

PLUMBING AND HEATING,

158 MAIN ST.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

THE

GOLDEN GRAIL.

THE POOR MAN'S INSURANCE.

$100 IN SIX MONTHS.
$100 OR $200 IN ONE YEAR.
$300 IN TWO YEARS,
OR AT DEATH.

No Medical Examination Required.

The Order of the Golden Grail is beyond its experimental stage. It has become a *pronounced certainty.*

Assessments, $2 and $4. Three new classes of endowment. For full particulars, inquire of

F. I. BILLINGS, 9 Pleasant St.

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

One of Mr. Richard Mansfield's admirers writes that that actor's impersonation of Beau Brummell is "a thing so exquisite, that butterflies would wait on poised wings to watch him." This is very poetic, and much nicer than saying there are no flies on Richard?— [Ex.

There are spiders in Ceylon that spin webs so strong as to prove a painful check to any one moving quickly against them. Hats have been knocked off the heads of travellers by a single thread, and a cane thrown into one of these webs will remain suspended. Some of the spiders are eight inches across, and spin silk as thick as ordinary sewing cotton.

The Davis gun factory of Assonet is looking for a location. The concern now is at a disadvantage in many ways and a move of the kind contemplated would aid them very much. The concern has a large and well established trade West and makes excellent guns. Has our Board of trade anything to offer this concern? What the firm most needs is commodious quarters.

One the secrets of successful advertising consists in keeping the consumer familiar with the name and the goods you have to offer. You must keep your name constantly before prospective purchasers. Never for a moment let them suspect that you are dead or have failed, as, in these days of business competition, they naturally will if they fail to see your advertisement. It is the man who is known that succeeds, and it is the man who advertises that is known.

The Taunton *Gazette* says: "The natural increase of population by births in New York city is pretty near a thing of the past. The official record of 1890 reports 39,250 babies born during the year and 40,103 deaths among the inhabitants. Here is a vacuum of 853 which had to be filled by immigrants. At that rate, if the city depended on births alone for inhabitants a century would see the city reduced to a desert. The thing is almost a scandal on American civilization."

John Smith, of Manchester, Eng., many years ago discovered that his name figured frequently in the criminal records, and was greatly afraid that he would be mistaken for one of the bad John Smiths. Accordingly he determined to assume a name that no other mortal ever possessed, and invented the name of Gagadig Gigadab, by which he has been known ever since. And he still lives we are told, therefore Fitchburgians suffering in the similiar way may follow his example without fear.

TRY THEM!

Old 49,

5 CENT CIGAR.

B. P. S.,

10 CENTS.

A. H. BURGESS, Druggist.

CORNER MAIN AND OLIVER STS.

The Victor Wheel Leads.

CUSHION TIRES,

And all the latest improvements, with no advance in price.

STRAIGHT OR TANGENT SPOKES.

SPRING FORK AND CUSHION TIRES

Remove all jar and give the rider the best wheel made.

Ask Victor riders what they think of them.

C. W. ANDERSON, Agt.

300 Cans California Apricots, 20 cts. a can.

300 Cans Plums, 22 cts. a can.

300 Cans Maine Sweet Corn, 10 cts. a can

200 Cans Maine Green Peas, 10 cts. a can.

200 Cans Salmon, 15 cts. a can.

800 Cans Good Sardines, 8 cts. a can.

200 Tumblers Currant jelly, 8 cts. each.

200 Buckets Preserves, 38 cts. each.

W. M. GRAY,

389 MAIN ST., · · FITCHBURG.

If you have tried other Blood Medicines without receiving any benefit

TRY

MALOON'S

SARSAPARILLA

it is scientifically prepared from the very best Honduras Sarsaparilla combined with other well-known Alteratives and Tonics.

It Has Done Others Good, it Will Do You Good.

Per Bottle 75 Cents, only.

T. S. MALOON & CO.,

THE DRUGGISTS

174 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

200 LBS.

PEANUT TAFFY

—AT—

17 CENTS PER POUND.

—ON—

SATURDAY.

E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

SEE OUR

Easter

OFFERING

—OF—

NECKTIES, HATS, COLLARS,

SUITS AND OVERCOATS.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

SPECIAL SALE,

SATURDAY, MAR. 21,

—AT—

The Boston Shoe Store!

569 Pairs Ladies' Bright Dongola Button Boots, Opera and Common Sense, sizes 2½ to 7, widths B to E, $1.75.

These Boots cannot be duplicated elsewhere for less than $2.50. Ladies who have been troubled in getting fitted in Boots of this price will find no difficulty in getting fitted at our store.

24 Pairs Men's Patent Leather Lace Shoes, $2.40.

Regular price, $3.50.

Men's Storm King Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.70.

Men's Woonsocket Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.35.

Men,s Woonsocket Pure Gum Rubber Boots,	$2.75
Ladies' First Quality Rubber Boots,	1.35
Ladies' Plain Croquet Rubbers,	.25
Ladies' Storm Rubbers,	.45
Men's Imt. Sandals, Boston First Quality,	.50

BOSTON SHOE STORE,

182 Main Street, - - Fitchburg, Mass.

HERBERT N. RUGG,

CONFECTIONER,

CATERER AND FANCY BAKER.

181 MAIN STREET.

We have just received a fine line of Cream Bon Bons and Chocolates, from one of the best makers in the country.

AND

Have, at the request of our customers, added a line of Fine Fancy Crackers, to which we would call your attention.

ALSO

Have for sale Potted Plants, Cut Flowers and Flower Seeds, from the Greenhouse of William Liversage.

We cordially invite the public to inspect our stock.

Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,

187 MAIN ST.

EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

Gloucester, Mass., has adopted the five cent fare on the street railways. Is Fitchburg getting round to this idea, Friend Sargent?

A man in Bloomington, Ill., recently gave $30,000 to his children, intending to spend his declining days with them. They accepted the money and then had him put in the poorhouse.

Chat says: "Queer, isn't it, that the man who can stand on a street corner from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof and discuss the mistakes of the administration without getting tired is seized with such utter and overwhelming fatigue when he finds himself expected to give up his seat in a street car to a lady?" Yes, very queer if the lady happens to be young and pretty.

Says an exchange, "Jersey City ministers have determined to make an attack on the heathen of their own home. They have decided to begin a house to house canvass of the city and the work has been laid out so that there are five districts and no canvasser will intefere with another. The object is to find out what people do not attend church. Next what church they prefer and finally to urge them to go. Each clerical canvasser will have a corps of assistants, and each assistant will have ten families to look after. If the people of Jersey city do not go to church it will not be due to the fact that they are not invited and stirred up in good season." Probably they will find some cases of ignorance almost as bad as those of darkest Africa.

There is a lawyer not a thousand miles away from the Rollstone bank block, who is reported as going around from place to place wagging his tongue very freely about certain newspaper men who have on one or two occasions given him little truthful rubs. He is one of those cheap fellows who are scarcely worth while noticing, but a little warning again seems to be necessary. Some of the newspaper men could tell some funny stories about the lawyer in question, stories that would make people smile again. We can promise him that he is in a fair way to once more make himself the laughing stock of the town unless he keeps better control of himself.

S. E. DICKSON,

Fashionable Hatter and Furnisher.

All the Popular Styles at Right Prices.

FINE LAUNDRY WORK.

373 Main Street. Under Fitchburg Hotel.

COAL

LACKAWANNA.
CHESTNUT.
$7 PER TON.

HARD.
SOFT.

WOOD

8 Baskets Best Hard Wood,	$1.00
10 " Mixed " "	1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord,	5.50
Soft Wood, "	3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord,	4.50
Splints, per bunch,	.05

100 cords dry wood in our sheds ready for delivery. All orders by mail or otherwise promptly delivered.

F. H. ARNOLD,

16 HARWOOD PLACE.

F. C. CURRIER & SON,

INSURANCE,

145 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

DICKINSON'S NEW BLOCK.

FIRE INSURANCE.
LIFE INSURANCE.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
ACCIDENT INSURANCE.
MARINE INSURANCE.

BUTTER IS HIGH.

Try something that takes the place of butter.

BUTTERINE.

—AT—

The Public Markets.

LORIN HOSLEY,

BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.

Blank Books Made to Order.

Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.

360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

It is rumored Taunton is to have a new theatre.

Mrs. Langtry wants to produce Shenandoah in London.

No less than fifty stars have come to grief so far this season.

Lotta plays a week's engagement at the Park theatre Boston, May 11 to 18.

Fred Gebhard is very ill with inflammatory rheumatism at the house of his sister, Mrs. Neilson, in New York.

Agnes Huntington has declined a cable offer of $1,250 a week to appear in "Robin Hood" at the Prince of Wales Theatre, London, from June 1.

Stuart Robson celebrated his fifty-fifth birthday a few weeks ago, and the ladies of his company provided a wagon-load of flowers for his room at the hotel and his dressing room in the theatre.

Frank I. Frayne, a well-known actor in sensational drama, died at Chicago, Monday. About nine years ago his name was brought prominently before the people by his accidental shooting of Miss Annie Von Behren.

A new theatre will be permanently opened in Worcester in August. The lessee will be George E. Lothrop and no "leg shows" will be produced, but such plays as "Jim the Penman," "In the Ranks," "The Two Orphans," and the like, all of them the very best in their class.

The Theatrical *World* says: "Those who wait until about the middle of an act before clattering down the aisle do so for no other purpose than to make known their presence. Managers should prevent the ill-bred and inconsiderate patrons from annoying the audience, by compelling them to stand in the rear of the house until the curtain descends."

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Monday evening Conried's opera company with an excellent corps of actors and actresses presented "The Gypsy Baron." The music was much enjoyed by those who appreciate high class music, but with the bulk of the audience the burlesque and comedy parts were most enjoyed. There was a good audience and the performers were very liberally applauded for their excellent work.

Last night, Sam T. Jack and Lilly Clay's troupe of ladies gave a reception to a distinguished audience of gentlemen. It is needless to say that the performance was designed specially to please the male congregation, but at the same time it was a performance that the ladies in many cities visit and enjoy under different names. The audience was a large one and was not confined to one particular age or one particular class. There were rich and poor, young and old, informed and ignorant present, but all seemed delighted with the bill of fare.

Next week will see four attractions: Monday evening, Nellie McHenry will give us a new play "Chain Lightning." This is spoken of as a gorgeous production with a wealth of scenery, catchy songs, witty sayings, splendid dresses and a strong company. Everything in it is said to be catching and typical. There is a bowie knife fight to stir up the blood followed by a number of melodies to put everybody into good humor again. In a few words it is a sensational farce comedy the chief object of which is to amuse.

Wednesday evening we are fortunate enough to have Mr. Palmer's Madison Square theatre company in that exceptionally fine production "Jim the Penman." Nothing we can add will interest lovers of the drama for this piece. It is one of the the very few plays of the time which the pulpit has seen fit to praise. Its moral is good, it is not overdrawn, and the best among us can learn a good lesson from seeing this performance.

Thursday, Fast day, the much talked of amateur performance "Babie" will be presented. The ladies and gentlemen composing the cast do not expect to set the town on fire, but will make every effort to give an enjoyable entertainment. With one or two exceptions the performers are semi-professional and have entertained our citizens on several occasions. Ned Brown, Will Walker, Herbert Chase, F. B. Farrar, Mrs. Chase, Misses Jessie Hosmer, J. M. Grant, Issie Brooks and F. E. Gresseneich are amateurs of exceptional ability and their parts will doubtless be capitally done. The minor parts have been placed in charge of less able but willing hands. The play was presented at the Boston Museum last season and made a great hit. While it will not be so ably done here the performance will have some points of special interest, notably the Mandolin and Guitar Club, songs by Misses Brooks and Hosmer, and selections by Miss Grant.

Primrose & West's Minstrels scarcely need any introduction they are so well and so favorably known here. Last week they held the fort at the Boston theatre, Boston, and large as the house is they were sufficient to crowd it every night and receive most favorable comments from all the Boston papers. They will receive a hearty welcome here without doubt.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

Although "Sunlight and Shadow" at the Museum is considered a great success it will be withdrawn to-night and on Monday "New Lamps for Old" will be the attraction at this popular place of amusement.

At the Boston theatre "A Brass Monkey" has been the bill this week. The force is said to be somewhat improved since last seen in Boston and has pleased big crowds. Next week George Thatcher's minstrels will be the drawing card.

At the Globe theatre "Aunt Jack" and "A man of the World" will be followed Monday, by "The Still Alarm." The seats are already meeting with a ready sale, therefore the success of the engagement is assured.

"Ship Ahoy" closes its eminently successful engagement at the Park theatre to night. Boston makes no secret of being loth to part with it and all connected with it feel proud of its splended run. W. S. Cleveland's minstrels follow.

In spite of the fact that "Blue Jeans" will not wear out, the play closes its third week's run at the Hollis Street theatre to-night to be followed by William H. Crane in "The Senator." This will be welcome news to the patrons of the Hollis street theatre, though the engagement is a limited one.

OPERA HOUSE.

MONDAY, MARCH 30.

CHAIN LIGHTNING.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1.

Jim, The Penman.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2.

BABIE.

FRIDAY APRIL 3.

PRIMROSE & WEST'S MINSTRELS.

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notices of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything regarding the social side of the city's doings.]

The members of the Ladies Union Aid Society are quite annoyed at the school committee's report which says the Ladies Relief Corps raised the funds necessary to place staffs upon four buildings. We do not for a moment entertain the thought that Mr. Edgerly made the error wilfully, the first named society is not so well known as the latter and we suspect a slip of the memory made the error. Nevertheless it is unfortunate, for the members of the Union Aid Society worked hard and have felt all through the flag affair that they have not been treated just right. There was another instance some few years ago where the funds of the society were given to a deserving charity when some of the members did not fully approve of the plan, and, on the whole, some of the members think the society is quite unfortunate.

Just now the city is remarkably quiet and the most severe critic will acknowledge that law breaking is at a minimum in Fitchburg. After May 1st there will doubtless be more arrests for drunkenness, but the indications are that license holders will conduct their business with all the care it is possible to exercise in this line of trade. It is impossible to wipe the traffic out of existence when so many secretly favor it. It would seem that the best thing to be done under the circumstances is to conduct it within certain restrictions, so that while the will of the majority is obeyed whatever evils arise from it may be under control.

E. E. Howard has opened his new photograph rooms in Dickinson's new block and has a very fine establishment. The premises were especially arranged for him and samples of his work show that he is prepared to turn out really first class pictures.

Friday evening, April 10, the Lambeth Select choir, of Glasgow, Scotland, will give a grand concert in city hall. This choir has for many years held a leading place among the choirs of great Britain and will no doubt make their visit to this city one of the chief musical events of the season. The press everywhere speaks of the choir in the highest terms. The conductor is Prof Lambeth, who, besides ranking high as a composer of music, has held the position of city organist in Glasgow for 35 years.

The value of a Board of Trade full of energy is again manifested. Mr. Mitchell one of the owners of the new gingham mill about to be built here, knows of a large Belgian dyeing concern about to locate their plant in this country. Mr. Mitchell, with a view of doing all he can for the interests of his adopted business home in this country, is trying to induce them to come to Fitchburg. The Board of Trade has the matter in hand. The firm wants a good site and good water supply and another city has its eye on the concern, but there is still a slim hope of locating the Belgians here. We cannot offer them a wide deep river, but perhaps we can offer them some advantages that will make up for this deficiency.

The new insurance company, The Wachusett Mutual Fire Insurance Company, starts out with very encouraging prospects. The promoters are men of good standing in the community and promise to bring quite a good amount of business from among themselves. There seems to be room for another company and after it is well under way it will do a large business in other parts of the state. Persons who have only a small amount of insurance on their premises can give the new company a little help in starting by taking out policies even if only for moderate sums. No policies in the new company will be issued at present, but all applicants who wish to place their risks immediately will be temporarily secured until the new company is open for business. In the meantime the new company invites our citizens to consult its officers for particulars.

Girard & Irish have opened the new addition to their store and are now in a position to do a larger and ever increasing business. The store looks exceedingly handsome and is stocked with a large and beautifully selected class of dry goods and and millinery. The windows this week have been quite a centre of attraction especially for the ladies. The millinery department, which will in future be a special feature with this firm is in charge of Miss E. A. Riggs formerly with Madam Huson, 5th Avenue, New York. We hope the firm will find all the business it is possible to handle in their enlarged premises.

The members of Post 19, G. A. R., and all others who took part in the presentation of "The Drummer Boy" are deserving of man compliments for the excellent manner in which they acquitted themselves in the play. It is almost unfair to single out any particular persons for special mention as all made a praiseworthy effort to enter into the spirit of the piece, but as we believe in giving credit where credit is due we wish to compliment E. B. Macy, Andrew Connery, Charlie Wyman, A. F. Nail, Mrs. E. T. Stone, Misses Ella K. Boss and Emma Luke for their work. The two first named made a decided hit. Just four others seemed to win favor, Master Oliver S. Bush "The Drummer Boy," who acted capitally, Charles K. Darling, Sidney Sibley and Richard Tucker. All did well and the Post can boast of having some really good Thespians.

Monday, is Easter Monday. The Foresters have made arrangements for a grand ball at city hall. Supper will be served by Caterer James of Waltham. Eastman's Orchestra will give the following concert:

OVERTURE.	"Hungarian Lustspiel."	*Kela Bela.*
SELECTION.	"Faust."	*Gounod*
TROMBONE SOLO.	"La Coquette Polka." MR. F. BLODGETT	*Innes.*
MUSICAL SCENES FROM SPAIN.		*Langey.*
DIVERTISEMENT.	With Solos for Zither, Violin, Flute, Clarionet and Cornet.	*Beyer*
MEDLEY.	"Pete."	*Braham.*

Chamberlain,
Huntress & Co.

N N
E E
W
CARPETS
I
N N
ALL DESIGNS
∴
SPRING OPENING
PRICES LOW
Selection cannot be surpassed
Call and examine

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

FAMILY WASHINGS
50 CTS. A BASKETFUL,
AT THE
CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO,
229 MAIN STREET.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That the Ancient Order of Foresters have completed arrangements for their annual concert and ball in city hall, next Monday evening which promises to be one of the social events of the season. The decoration of city hall will he elaborate and a pleasant time is anticipated for all patrons.

That in a neighboring New England city the owners of a partially burned wooden building on a business street, were forbidden to repair it because it was the limit of the fire ordinance and must be rebuilt of brick if at all. Wonder when Fitchburg will brace up to decline to nullify its ordinance against building wooden fire traps.

That if the small or large boys who persist in insulting and annoying a downtown Celestial, were aware how nearly they have escaped the keen edge of a small hatchet he is armed with, they would desist at once from such perilous amusement. It is neither safe nor decent to so torment an innocent, law-abiding foreigner.

That some of the paper makers are congratulating a fellow employe upon the acquisition of a new suit and a watch. The suit is a dandy and the watch is a Waterbury. He will be allowed the privilege of winding it up on one of the belts in the mill.

That the "boys" in one of the big machine shops are thinking of asking for police protection. Friday morning when one young man, a hay pounder from "Down East," went to work he was filled with (re)morse to find that his overalls, which he had worn quite a while and which had become quite soiled, had been eaten by the demon fire. A theory was advanced that the flames were caused by spontaneous combustion, but Bull Sugar firmly believes that it was of incendiary origin, and is now on the war path armed to the teeth with berlud in his eye and murder in his heart searching for the base villian who perpetrated the foul deed.

That spring overcoats are now slowly emerging from their places of concealment. The clothing dealers offer some regular beauties and the prices are very reasonable too.

That the musical services in all the churches tomorrow will be of a very elaborate kind. Some will go to pray, some to hear the music, others to see the Easter fashions and some—will not go to church at all.

That we do not wish to question the accuracy of the *Mail* reporter's statement of the number of men seen drunk on Water street recently, but think in justice to all he should have given all the facts, as he has since stated that six of the 12 drunks had arrived in town by train. The police cannot be held responsible for those who get drunk out of town and persons have a right to receive by express a keg or even a half barrel of beer for "home consumption." Let's put a charitable construction on the matter and say it was not for sale until it is proved otherwise.

That there seems to be a little revolution in the disposition of "wet goods" according to the statements in one of the city dailies. The old city paper says that three kegs of beer were buried in the earth and after being dug out could not be sold even at bankrupt prices. This would indicate that the authorities are deceaded. Have they got it down so fine that the law breakers are glad to give the stuff away?

NOTICE TO NEWSBOYS.

Commencing on Saturday next all newsboys will be supplied with our paper at *this office* instead of at the newsdealers. We want all the regular newsboys to sell the paper and shall require them to be provided with a bag so that the papers will be kept clean. Only steady reliable boys are wanted and as fast as possible regular routes will be assigned to each carrier. Boys now selling the paper every week and others having regular routes are preferred.

NEW ARRIVAL.

3500 POUNDS

BEST DATES,

4 pounds for 25 cts.

5000 QUARTS

First-Class .·. Peanuts,

Five cents per quart.

—AT—

MACY'S.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.

ARTISTIC

FLORAL DESIGN WORK,

A SPECIALTY.

F. O. WILLARD,

FLORIST,

GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.

Telephone 13-3.

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Home-made Mince Meat, 10 cts. a can; Canned Peas, 10 cts. a can; Canned Corn, 10 cts. a can; Canned Tomatoes, 10 cts. a can and all Canned Goods at very Low Prices. Crystal Table Jelly assorted flavors; *Fresh* Potato Chips; Fancy Crackers in great variety, Thorn Medicine Co. Extracts; Home Rule Oil Can, best Oil Can in the market.

A full line of Choice Groceries at Lowest Prices.

PERLEY HOLMES.

Rollstone Creamery,

231 MAIN ST.,

Next door to the City Steam Laundry.

MILK, CREAM, BUTTER

—AND—

CREAMERY SUPPLIES,

Fresh and nice every day.

☞Give us a call.

THE GIANT!

The only wheels at medium prices combining all the improvements of the day. Ball Bearings all over, including head. Spring Fork, Spring Frame, Etc.

CASH OR INSTALMENTS.

ALLEN & SPINNEY, AGENTS,

133 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG

I suppose it is nearly time now to talk about Licenses. How much is to be charged for the privelege of dispensing the seductive beverages, and how many places are to be allowed? Ah! there's the rub. The mayor recommended six, but it is believed the license committee favors going a little steeper than this. Still, those who have this matter in hand do not say much. They know how to keep their own counsel, but I should not be surprised if a baker's dozen covered all granted. The following are the fees charged in Lowell and may be of interest here:

First-class innholders, only to be issued in conjunction with fourth-class licenses, $1100.
First-class common victualler, only to be used in conjunction with a fourth-class license, $1100.
Second-class common victualler, $1300.
Third-class common victualler, $1500.
Fourth-class, only to be used in conjunction with first-class innholder or victualler license, $400.
Fourth-class grocers' license, $1500.
Fourth-class wholesale license, $1500.
Fifth-class bottlers' license, $1000.
Sixth-class druggists' license, $1.
If the fourth-class dealer is a distiller of over 50 barrels, license fee $1600.
If the fifth-class bottler is a brewer, license fee, $1100.

The above figures are not very far from those in operation here under our last License term. There was one thing about the license question last time that may be different this time. Then, the law regarding the premises used was not enforced and if a man had a little counter and a store, why, the furniture did not play a very important part. But it will be different this year, at least, so it is said. Report has it that the mayor will insist upon those who receive first class licenses having suitable places and the required accomodations. Regarding the License fees there is a great diversity of opinion. In Lowell the common victuallers claim that $1500 is, in their cases, robbery. For the hotels the victuallers think $1500 is all right, but the hotel keepers give a little grunt. There are two sides to the license fee question. It is not good policy to grant too many licenses or to charge too small a fee for the privelege granted, but it is also bad to charge an enormous fee. In cases where a licensee has to pay $1800 or $2000, or even near these figures, the temptation to sell to *anybody*, to sell at *any time*, or to sell any kind of stuff in order to come out with a profit, must be greater than when a more reasonable figure is charged. It seems to me that a more strict compliance with the terms of a license can be expected in the latter case than in the former.

Few faces are better known to the average newspaper reader than that of William L. Douglas of Brockton. He has a much wider acquaintance than Jones who pays the freight and probably no other man has kept his name so prominently before the public as Douglas. His plan of producing his picture with every advertisement has proved a gold mine to him, while almost every day, in looking over the papers, one may see a joke about the picture, which is, of course, an advertisement, and a free one, at that. The latest of that class comes from the Atlanta (Ga.) *Constitution*.

Foreman—The showman wants a cut of two bald-headed twins in his advertisement.

Editor—Well, just shave off the moustache from that cut of W. L. Douglas, and run him in with Bill Nye.

Foreman—But we've been running the Bill Nye cut as Dr. Talmage.

Editor—So much the better for the showman. They'll think Talmage is along and the whole town will turn out. Run the cut in, and I'll charge the agent $6 extra. The Brockton *Gazette* says no one would recognize Mr. Douglas from his pictures as he is a decided blond while his pictures make him a pronounced brunette.

A few days ago I chanced to follow a reporter into a barber's shop. That is rather an odd place for a raven to get into, but I get into odd corners occasionally. The barber was at work on a gentleman most of you know, but his eagle eye caught sight of me as I quietly crowded into a convenient niche to observe what went on. By and by the barber and his customer got into conversation, the barber doing the principal part of the talking. With a sly look at me (which I took to mean I want you to catch on to this) he commenced pouring out some of the grievances of the poor barbers. I took the hint, shook my feathers into an easy condition and twisted my head on one side to take it all in. Said the "Knight of the Razor," "I wish you could spend a few days in a barber's shop you would get some funny experiences." "Ah, ah?" said the man in the chair with the inflection that denoted a desire to hear the rest of the story. "Yes," replied the man of lather, "I think you would find that some men think a barber is a mere thing, a machine, a sort of drop-a-dime-in-the-slot arrangement and get in return for it 15 or 20 cents worth of work. Some men are possessed of unlimited cheek and gall and some of them seem to think the right place to show it is in a barber's shop. Why, I have known men get into a barber's chair, lean back and grunt with an air of satisfaction and let the barber shave, perfume, wax and curl, powder and swathe with hot cloths and bay rum, and when done will tender him a dime, holding it at the same time with a grip strong enough to make a dent in the coin. But what mads me the most is to have fellows get up from the chair after being operated upon in first class style and tender a dime with the remark that a shave like that would cost 20 cents in Boston and then walk out. Others come and expect the same amount of work. They see the man in the next chair get a first class job done, and without stopping to enquire what he has paid, go out mad because for a dime 20 cents worth of time was not wasted on them. I'll bet you any barber in town will tell you he gets some of this class, and if I do say it myself there is no other city in the state for its size that has a better class of barbers than Fitchburg." I will tell you more about the barbers another time.

ROES PAVEN.

COAL!

LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7.00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5.50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
$8.00.

25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS.

Office, 11 Day Street.

TELEPHONE 218-2

DISAPPOINTMENT.

HE dropped a nickel in the slot,
And gave the slide a jerk.
And then he said a naughty word—
The blamed thing wouldn't work.

UNRELIABLE INFORMATION.

SHE was the "lady reporter" of *The Daily Planetary System*, and she was "doing" her first base-ball game.

"Can you tell me, sir," she inquired of a benign-looking old gentleman who sat next to her, "can you tell me why they have two umpires?"

"Certainly, Madam," he replied, with dignified courtesy. "It is in order that whenever one of them is crippled or killed by an infuriated player the game may not be unnecessarily delayed."

And that evening, as the editor lit his editorial pipe with the choicest paragraph in her copy, he assigned her to the underwear article again, to the bitter disappointment of a young man of ideas who wished to make himself famous as a reporter in that branch of journalism.

BOILING YET.

SHE: How angry the Delaware looks!
HE: Yes, Washington crossed it, you know.

HE HAS IT NOW.

FIRST OFFICE BOY: Didn't you have der grip yet, Fiddsey?

SECOND OFFICE BOY: Naw, course not. I'm waitin' till der base ball season opens.

THE records of Noah's voyage were kept in the archives.

AN UNFORTUNATE LESSON IN ECONOMY.

HUSBAND: *My dear, I saw this hat in a window marked, "the latest style, only 47 cents," so I bought it for you.*

WIFE: *How kind of you, Fred; I'll send it to the milliner's to-morrow and have it trimmed.*

A LEAF FROM STANLEY'S NOTE BOOK.

BULLY BOY: *Nasty weather this!*

WAG. DUDE: *I should say so, and I very foolishly put on my Spring beads yesterday.*

A FEW DAYS LATER.

WIFE (*when the milliner's boy trims home the bonnet*): *Doesn't it look lovely, Fred? The bill is marked C. O. D.*

FALSI'S NE UNO.

MR. BARROWS was in the parlor; but what was said in the nursery could be plainly heard.

"That's a nice baby boy," said the visitor. "He has your eyes and nose, and smile."

"Yes; but look—see? He has his father's teeth."

Then Mr. Barrows got mad and called up; "Take 'em away from him, Mary; don't let him play with my teeth."

THE FRESH OFFICE BOY AGAIN.

STRANGER (entering office): Is Mr. Eastlake about?

OFFICE BOY: Yes, sir.

STRANGER: I'd like to see him.

"But you can't."

"You said he was about."

"Yes, sir; about a hundred miles from here."

INFORMATION FOR BOTH.

"YOUR fare, ma'am," said a street car conductor to a young lady from New Jersey.

"That's queer, replied the damsel; "I always thought I was kinder dark—a brunette, yer know."

HIS AUNT LIVED WITH THEM.

TEACHER: *Why wasn't you at school yesterday, Johnny?*

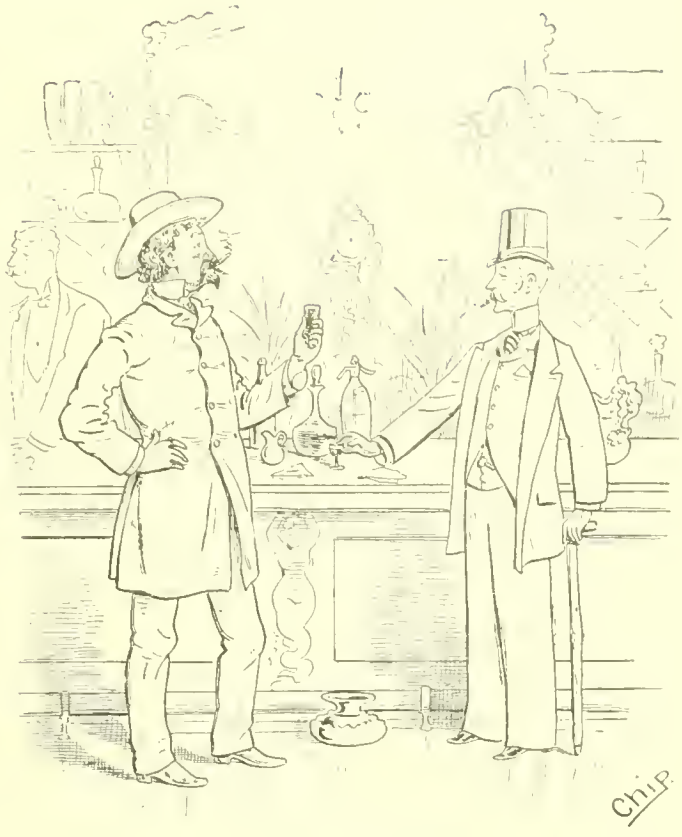
JOHNNY: *We've got a new baby at our house.*

TEACHER: *Ah! brother or sister?*

JOHNNY: *Neither.*

TEACHER: *W-h-a-t?*

JOHNNY: *No. Cousin.*



A MAN OF SPIRIT.

COL. STILL (of Kentucky): *And what do you think, sir; he asked me to apologize, sir.*

STRANGER: *And did you?*

COL. STILL (of Kentucky): *No, sir; I never [illegible] water.*

AT THE ASYLUM.

"THIS man appears to be sane enough," said the doctor. "There's nothing weak about his head."

"Of course there isn't," said the lunatic. "I can stand on my head for hours without getting tired."

And then for some reason or another the physician changed his mind.

POLITE SNAKE: *Don't rise on my account.*

Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

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MARCH 28, 1891.

In the legislature the taxation committee has reported a bill for taxing houses of religious worship. It amends the statutes, to read as follows: "Houses of religious worship, owned by a religious society, or held in trust for the use of religious organizations, and the pews and furniture (except for parochial purposes) shall be exempt from taxation to the assessed value of $50,000. But portions of such houses, appropriated for purposes other than religious worship, shall be taxed at the value thereof to the owners of the houses." Perhaps the bill may not pass, but we think all religious societies ought to be taxed above a certain limit.

* * *

The Knights of Labor of Manchester, N. H., gave up the ghost, as an organization, two weeks ago, after a seven year's existence. At one time it numbered not less than 10,000 members, became a great power, had an official organ with a larger circulation than all the other Manchester papers combined, dictated city nominations, controlled the political destinies of the city and elected its own city government. Then it became too much of a boss and thought it owned everybody and everything. Some weavers in the Amoskeag mills went on a strike and were locked out, the Knights took the strikers part and ran against a rock. The corporation would not stand the Knights' interference and the results were disasterous for the Knights. The decline commenced at once and the organization fell away rapidly. Seventeen members met two weeks ago and closed up the affair of the organization. The prospects of its resurrection are below zero. From its remains, however, half a dozen different labor organizations have grown up and are flourishing.

* * *

The Board of Trade officers are at work doing what seems to be necessary and advisable towards securing other reliable enterprises to make this city their headquarters. The interest, however, taken by the majority of the business men is not what may reasonably be expected. The Board ought to have at least 500 members to have the influence commensurate with its importance. The larger this body is the more effective its work. Give the Board your active support. It will be of benefit to you and every other business man as well as to the entire community.

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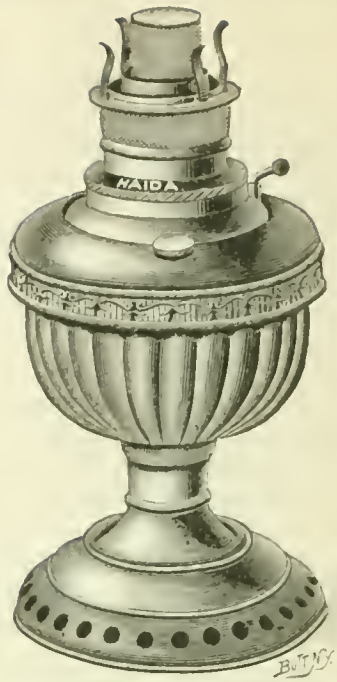

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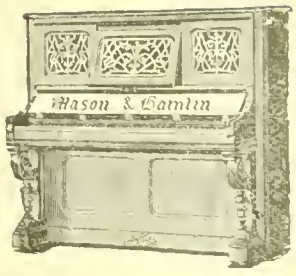

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PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES

The sketcher will get off easily if W. M. Willis does not cut his hair for calling his office the old curiosity shop. No. 61 has been figured out as Nathan C. Upham the real estate agent.

There is a young man employed in one of the large work-shops in this city proper who seems to be a good subject for this column. He is tall, well built, decidedly good looking and probably about 32 or 34 years of age. On the street he does not attract any particular attention to himself, from the fact that he goes quietly along, contentedly enjoying his cheroot and paying little attention to those around him, but all the same the gentleman in question is a wide-awake business man, or, as it is sometimes expressed "a hustler." His native heath is Boston common, or perhaps I should say he is a Bostonian. He has been in this city some seven or eight years and has filled a very responsible position. When he first came here the profession he followed was an open field and an *expert* stenographer was something of a novelty. This class of ladies and gentlemen were, however, at that time just beginning to make themselves known and they soon became a necessity with those business men who are burdened with a large correspondence. The gentleman alluded to appears to take life easy, but that only shows that he is a cool, wide-awake fellow and the success he has achieved shows that he is an old and practised hand in business. While his outward appearance would not denote a man of much emotion, but rather a trifle of a cynic, he is a keen observer and can appreciate wit or humor no matter under what circumstances it shows itself. Who is No. 62?

As we review, in our mind, the list of older merchants in active business life in our city, one in particular stands out prominent by his integrity and honorable record. We recognize his kindly face, and genial manner, and remember that we have for years seen him wend his way from his cosy little home to his place of business on the upper part of Main street. We know his name, too, but will not break in on our reverie so much as to articulate it, and will leave that for the reader to surmise, for he probably knows to whom we refer. Our friend—right here let us give him a number, for brevity—No 63 is one of the most obliging and attentive men in his business, and has made his store a favorite with all. Some years ago he erected a tasteful and substantial block, known by his name, and an ornament to that part of Main street. In his religious and family life our subject stands, as elsewhere, among the best men in the community. He has been for years one of the supporters of the church at the head of the upper common, and it is to be hoped that No. 63 is a type of all church-going people. He has two sons, who emulating their father's character, are attaining prominence in business and professional circles. Some day we may write a sketch of one of them. In fact, the younger men are apt to take attention away from older ones, but before we allow them to crowd our subject out of mind, let us ask you the question—who is No. 63?

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BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

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CHAPTER X.

HOW CONSTABLE FALES GOES TO WORK IN A DELICATE MATTER.

Dr. Tripp comes out and closes the door without trying to be particularly still about it. For, whatever restraints may be put upon the nurse or members of a household where one is lying at the point of death, the physician himself is not to be controlled by them. He may slam the door, or speak in a full voice, though everybody else must step on tiptoe and use hushed tones.

Constable Fales draws Doctor Tripp into the next room, the doctor looking wise and with a general air of knowing all about it; while the officer becomes brusque and matter-of-fact again.

"The patient—the victim, I should say—what are his chances?" demands the constable, in a tone which no one else would have dared to assume.

"The chances are—well—doubtful. It is too early to speak positively. When the consulting physician arrives we will attempt—"

"I don't want any attempts," declares Constable Fales, bluntly.

Dr. Tripp regards him with all the surprise that can be expressed by a mild-mannered gentleman through his spectacles, and after a moment of silence asks:

"Will you be kind enough, Mr. Fales, to tell me what you mean? Surely you do not expect medical men to state as a positive certainty a matter which is really problematical? Surely, sir, you would allow a medical man the same latitude in the exercise of his judgement as you would to the member of any other profession or trade.

"Precisely the same, Doctor Tripp, and no more," declares Constable Fales, gruffly, and before the doctor can ask for a further explanation the officer makes one, in such a clear and concise manner that the good doctor has a flood of new thoughts let in upon his professional mind.

"If I ask a carpenter or a brick-mason how much it would cost me to build a certain building, of which I give the exact dimensions, they tell me what they will do it for, and what the brick and lumber will cost so close that I don't need to know anything more about it."

"But when it is built sometimes it turns out to cost more," declares the doctor, triumphantly, feeling that the officer has drawn a very slim comparison.

"Exactly. And then I know how much their judgement is worth, or that they meant to understate it in the first place. And it is the same in this case. You aren't willing to state your real opinion for fear it may be discredited afterwards. So you leave the case open, and stand ready to say, when the man has got well or been buried that you were confident of his recovery or knew he couldn't live from the first. In other words, you have a private opinion all the while, but don't dare to risk your reputation on it."

Constable Fales pauses to see the effect on Doctor Tripp; and Doctor Tripp unbends from his dignity and prepares to open his heart to this big, bluff fellow who will not be put off with anything save the plain truth. And in a few words, and with an explicitness which shows that the physician knows the injured man's chances with sufficient accuracy from the first, Doctor Tripp states the precise condition of Edward Warfield at that hour, and details all the conditions of danger and of hope for the immediate future.

"You seem to know all about it," says Constable Fales, "and I don't see why you had another doctor sent for."

"He may suggest something that hasn't occurred to me. His experience isn't my experience, and, as they say, two heads are better than one."

"Very true. I see you're like any other man, in spite of your being a doctor. And you have told me what I wished most to know. And now about this cock-and-bull story about the girl's foretelling the tragedy and the mysterious happenings in this house which everybody is talking about. What do you think of it all?"

"It is curious, Mr. Fales—very curious," declares Doctor Tripp.

"I knew that before I asked you about it. I want to know if you, as a man of science, take any stock in such foolery?"

"As a man of science I can only say that there are unexplained influences which operate upon the susceptible nervous organism of many people. These influences are variously explained, according to the belief of the one giving his theory. Spiritualists attribute it to the influence of disembodied spirits. Others, accepting the spiritual explanation partially, attribute the influences wholly to living and em-

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bodied spirits acting upon each other sympathetically. A materialist, or one who rejects every force save that of matter would tell you that all these manifestations and abnormal conditions arise from physical causes, the same as thought and the emotions are evolved from the circulation of the blood about the nerve-centres. For instance, the manner in which pain and other sensations are communicated from different parts of the body through the nerves to the brain cannot be detected by the eye or any test. Yet it is so communicated. Abnormal nerve-action causes hallucination. Nothing was ever so absurd but one may find some one to testify to its reality. And a believer in such things may not be ignorant. But it is a big subject, Mr. Fales, and I'm not disposed to ridicule anything that others as wise as I accept as true. I merely explain it, if I do at all, as the influence of the least understood of the natural law. Earthquakes and shooting-stars were formerly regarded as of supernatural origin. Science merely questions until the answer be a positive one. It simply leaves the case as not proven until unquestionable proof be found. But it seems to be the fate of the supernatural to give way before this questioning. Some secrets are still withheld; some, I doubt not, will remain unanswered to earthly wisdom forever. Of this particular case I know little save by hear-say concerning Miss Fenlow's peculiar powers, as a clairvoyant, and the little which James Warfield and this youth called Barker told me tonight."

"Warfield has said nothing to me about it except in answer to questions," says Constable Fales.

"He would do so if he had the opportunity."

"I daresay he would. But Barker told me enough. He is superstitious but he has some horse-sense, after all, and I don't think he exaggerated any more than the rest of them would do if they told the same story. Of course the light spluttering and the clock stopping are not to be seriously spoken of. But the blood, and the bad cut in the man's neck, and the signs of a desperate struggle in that room are matters of importance. Nothing ghostly or intangible about those facts. Think so, doctor."

They are certainly serious and important facts?"

"That isn't what I want you to say. It was an attempt, and it may turn out a successful one, to commit murder. *That* is plain isn't it?"

"Perfectly plain."

"And in this state when we discover a crime like that the next thing is to find the culprit, prove his guilt, and then hang him. I suppose you're in favor of executing the law?"

"On general principles, yes."

"No matter if the culprit is a ghost—prove its guilt and hang it. On the whole, I'd like to be present at the execution of that sort of a malefactor."

And Constable Fales allows the two creases which enclose his mouth like parentheses to show themselves in their peculiar way. And Doctor Tripp chuckles.

"Now," the constable resumes, "you haven't heard and seen what you have heard and seen without thinking about it and forming an opinion."

"I've thought about it, as was natural, but I have formed no positive opinion."

"Some idea, then, if not a positive one?"

"I have been engaged chiefly in attending to my patient. I assure you that he needs all the attention I am able to give him."

"Yes. But you have made up your mind, in spite of that, that somebody had a pretty bitter grudge or other motive to prompt such an act. And knowing something about the sale of the Warfield Homestead to somebody that hasn't materialized, which is the talk of the whole neighborhood, haven't you connected this unknown purchaser with the unknown assailant of your patient? Hey?"

"I confess I have thought of such a connection."

"Of course you have. And without exactly knowing it you have made up your mind on that point with a great deal of positiveness. We're calling no names, you understand."

"We're calling no names, and I don't know of one that I could even think of in connection with this crime," declares Doctor Tripp.

"I presume you haven't got so far as that. You came as a doctor, and I as a—well, call it as a detective. Though I'm a plain man with no experience except in farming, as you know. Still, as an officer I can't help but think about my business. I came here to arrest the assailant of Edward Warfield. And, do you know that I have a mind not to go away until I have arrested the culprit, or somebody that I'm not afraid to accuse as such?"

Doctor Tripp looks into Constable Fales eyes with a startled, questioning gaze.

"You—you don't mean it!" he exclaimed.

"I do mean it," the constable contradicts, his voice becoming harsh.

"Then you suspect a member of—of James Warfield's household?"

"I suspect that a member of his household,

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DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
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can tell me all I wish to know about the matter. He may not choose to tell, but he may have to do what he doesn't choose. What do you think of that?"

Doctor Tripp stares through his spectacles, and then takes them off and wipes them as if he thinks they may be deceiving his understanding.

"It would be awkward to make a mistake—in that way, you know," he ventures to suggest, at last.

"Not so awkward as to make a mistake the other way and allow the rascal to slip through my fingers. Think so?"

"I—I don't know. I would hate to do it myself and—perhaps—I don't just understand your meaning. There are so few members of the household that are not, in one way or another, beyond the pale of suspicion."

"That's what makes it so easy for me. Just see how the matter stands."

Constable Fales goes to the bed and traces imaginary lines on the coverlet to to illustrate his explanation.

"Here," he says, marking out an irregular square, "is this house. And here," marking out and dividing the squares into compartments, "are the upstairs rooms, closets and all."

"You seem to be very familiar with the location of the rooms," says Doctor Tripp, for the man rapidly outlines every room and closet, describing them as he goes.

"I've been through them all just twice but such things stick in my memory when I once observe them closely. But don't interrupt me, if you please. Here is the room where the tragedy occurred. The window was not opened so the culprit had to escape by way of the hall. He didn't go down the stairs and out that way, for Warfield declares that he must have been in a position outside to command a view of the door at that time. He came in afterward and, so he says, locked the door. It was still locked when next examined. So the culprit had to escape by a window if he escaped at all. I have examined every window and no person escaped in that way, as I am perfectly certain. Mind you I've been thorough in my search, and I know what I'm talking about. So it follows that the culprit is either in this house at the present moment *else*—"and Constable Fales becomes more emphatic—"*else* somebody in the house at the time assisted the person to escape and covered his tracks for him—in other words, fastened door or windows behind him. Isn't that sufficiently clear, Doctor Tripp?"

"It seems so, I declare," says the doctor in a way that shows how strongly he is impressed by the logical presentation of details.

"Of course it is clear," Constable Fales resumes. "And so it follows that I must look over the inmates of this house before I search further for evidence or clues. Now, if you were in my shoes, but exercising your judgment, on whose shoulder would you clasp your right hand in making the arrest?"

"Don't ask me that, I beg of you," exclaims Doctor Tripp, greatly perturbed at at having his judgement in such a delicate matter appealed to.

"Just between us, as man and man," persists the officer.

"I can't say—I wouldn't take the responsibility of advising, you know. Really, I wouldn't dare to arrest anybody without a little more positive clue, you know."

"I suppose not. Wherein, Doctor Tripp, the native prudence of your profession disagrees with the pitch-in and hit-or-miss style of mine. For I'm going to put my hand onto somebody's shoulder for the exact purpose that I have mentioned."

Doctor Tripp asks no questions. He has a feeling that this bluff officer is a remarkably superior character. He has searched the house and sifted the evidence and listened and talked all at the same time, and without appearing to do so he has also made up his mind to an important course.

"I—I assume that you have spoken to Mr. Warfield of your intention," the doctor ventures, after a pause.

"I have not."

"And the young lady—she seems to be a very refined and gentle-minded person."

"That is the point on which I wished to consult you. I dare say you are an adept in the art of breaking disagreeable things to sensitive people? You have had to tell people that those they thought a great deal of were past hope—that they couldn't live till morning, or that their disease had fatal symptoms, and what-not? And so you can break the truth more delicately and suitably to the various temperaments with which you have to deal. And I would consider it a favor if you would go to the young lady, and give her a good fatherly sort of a talk, and tell her how harsh and unfeeling we officers become, and how we arrest people on slight evidence, and even we have to do it sometimes as witnesses, and all that. You know how to put the matter and smooth it over so she will sort of feel that it is a a kindness that I'm doing her rather than the reverse."

Doctor Tripp thinks a moment, staring very hard through his spectacles.

"What shall I say?" he asks, at last.

"Oh, you can manage it, in your plausible way. It is your duty to do it, because you can spare her feelings better than I can. It isn't that I want to shirk the matter; I merely want it made easy and nice and pleasant for the young lady. By the way, if she could be coaxed to go into one of her trances, how do we know but she would be able to see the face of the one who bought this property? and the one that tried to murder Edward Warfield, too? Why not try it? There's a test for you, as a scientific man. I ain't scientific, but I like the facts that science brings out. I say a thing is so or that it isn't so, as a practical man, and you as a man of science will tell me *why* it is so or isn't so. that's the difference between us. Now you just call the young lady aside and talk around the subject sort of easy and careless-like and I'll drop in with Mr. Warfield and work on him a bit before I clap my hand onto somebody, as aforesaid."

Constable Fales does not wait for Doctor Tripp to refuse, but goes out into the hall where Barker stands waiting.

"Tired of hanging around, Mr. Barker?" he inquires, with a familiar tap on the young man's arm.

"Oh, no, sir," says Barker, who is feeling too good under the officer's flattery to think greatly of the lapse of time.

"Well, we're getting on finely, with the help of those suggestions of yours, Mr.

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Barker. And Doctor Tripp agrees with us, too, though he doesn't like to say so. Now we'll go down and have another little talk with Mr. Fenlow and take Mr. Warfield along with us."

Doctor Tripp is about to return to his patient when Fales intercepts him and says:

"You will just send Mr. Warfield down stairs, wont you? Tell him I have a little matter to talk over with him. And then if you can find a chance, you may talk with the young lady."

Doctor Tripp nods and passes on. The officer hurries down with Barker, and at the foot of the stairs he suddenly draws the latter out upon the porch. At the same time he begins to feel of the youth's arms, from elbows to shoulders.

"Pretty muscular, for a young man, aren't you?" he exclaims, admiringly.

"Well, I can hold in most anything in the shape of a hoss," declares Barker, modestly.

"That's it. And I daresay you could hold your own wrestling with most any body of your heft?" pursues Fales.

"I used to wrastle *some*," admits Barker.

"There! I knew you did, by the feeling of that muscle. Land o'goshen, Mr. Barker, what a muscle you've got!" cries Constable Fales, while Barker doubles up his fist and raises his fore-arm slowly to make the lump which the officer is examining swell and harden to its fullest capacity.

"Hate to have you hit *me*," Fales adds, as they go in again, and he knocks sharply on the sitting-room door, immediately opening it himself and stalking in.

James Warfield has just come down. Mr. Fenlow is standing by the table, book in hand. He looks at the constable with his sharp, black eyes, but the constable does not look at him—or at least, he seems not to do so. Barker, tingling under Fale's flattery half-wishes that he may have a chance to use his remarkable muscles in some demonstrable manner. And it soon seems as if the desired opportunity were at hand.

(To be continued.)

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY.

FARNSWORTH BROS.

All the New Styles

—IN—

STIFF HATS

FOR THE SPRING TRADE.

NEW NECKWEAR!

BEST QUALITIES.
LOWEST PRICES.

146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

W. H. KEATING,
BARBER,

173 Main St., - - - Up Stairs.

Come in and see us. Cosy and comfortable quarters and prompt attention.

NOTHING LIKE

Honduras Sarsaparilla

—FOR A—

SPRING MEDICINE.

$.75 a bottle: 3 bottles for $2.00.

Prepared only by

D. H. JOEL,

DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER

GREAT SALE

—OF—

CARPETS.

CARPET DEPT.

SPECIAL.

STRAW MATTINGS!

We are showing an unusually large assortment of these popular floor coverings, and invite comparison of quality and prices.

Special values in

FANCY MATTINGS,

—AT—

20 AND 25 CTS.

And some new and pleasing effects in higher priced goods.

Nichols & Frost.

Sole Agts. for the Butterick Publishing Co.'s Patterns tor this Vicinity.

Kimball & Co.

It makes us shiver to write about Spring Clothes, but no knowing, perhaps e'er you read this, things may have changed and a Spring Overcoat will be just what you want.

If so, what we want you to know is that our stock is ready for inspection and sale, and, if we do say it, we are honest in our belief that a better variety of styles and prices combined with neat fabrics, perfectly fitting, elegantly trimmed and made Spring Overcoats were never shown this side of Boston.

Our stock of Hats is simply superb. All the popular blocks at popular prices.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

Leominster Breezes

There is a great difference between the Leominster Club and the Citizen's Club. The first named has for its members, the merchants, doctors, lawyers, and—dudes, whose aim is to have a good time. The pleasure, in this case, is found at the card and billiard table, and in smoking five cent cigars,—imported.

On the other hand the members of the Citizen's Club, of which there are many ladies, find their pleasure in the deliberate discussion of town interests in general. It creates and fosters a wider interest in town affairs, a more intelligent and earnest public spirit on the part of the citizens. Could it have a better object?

Another club, or perhaps I should say "society," which has stepped a little one side of the conventional order of things, is the Ancient Order of United Workman, which is to have an auxiliary known as the Degree of Honor Lodge. Its members will be the wives, mothers or sisters of the Workmen, who believe that in any action, enterprise, or undertaking, they are the confederates who will bring it to a success-issue. The names already sent in number 70 or 80, and more are sure to follow.

Has the Leominster correspondent for the Fitchburg evening *Mail* interviewed all the voters, on the public park question? If so, he forgot to mention the fact that many of them say it is simply the question "can we afford it?" but, "are there not things we need more?" Look at the town hall. Not only look at it, but open the door and enter. Is it a hall we can point to with pride? The *Mail's* correspondent, in his reports on the church scandel, has given us many a "shining example" of the reporters art, but shall we cultivate it?

The Easter openings at Mrs. L. L. Burkhill's was a success. All day Wednesday and Thursday her millinery parlor was thronged by ladies who not only carried away artistic little hats and bonnets, but also the remembrance of exquisite flowers and beautiful effects in black and gold. Those exciting the greatest admiration were two Parisian hats that will be the envy of those who decide on something less expensive with a sigh of regret.

The "Calico Party" is a thing of the past but the becoming costumes will appear again in the near future.

The Good Templars have moved into Fraternity hall in Nickerson's new block where they will hold their meetings twice a month instead of every week.

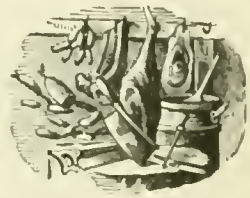
Henry Cook has appeared on the fields of politics, but property owners eye him askance. H. M. Lane is one of the candidates for selectmen. There is no one to vie with him, in executive ability, and if that was the ground on which election was secured he would hold the office in the coming year.

J. F. Butman, formerly with Mr. Gorhan of this town but now with Lovering & Co. of Fitchburg will be pleased to see any acquaintances at his new counter. He promises all his Leominster friends a fine assortment of goods and a welcome when in this city.

MEAT, POULTRY,

—AND—

GAME



Choicest Meats, Poultry, Fruits, and Vegetables

—AT—

TAGGART'S MARKET,

405 MAIN STREET.

Full line of dried and smoked meats. Everything of first quality.

GREAT SUCCESS!

We are having with our

ICE-CREAM AND HOME-MADE CANDIES.

Also a choice line of

Domestic and Imported Groceries

At reasonable prices.

E. M. READ.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r.

Open evenings Call and see it operate.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

Last week when the Royal Ark Endowment Order was paying off at Holyoke a police officer stepped forward and grabbed the money. The treasurer and other officers of the Ark took the money from the policeman and the 109 who were to be paid off wanted to throw him from the hall. The officer had a writ against the Order. A woman joined a year ago, but through a mistake her certificate was dated April instead of February. She wrote to the general officer about it and was promised that it should be fixed, but it was not, hence the trouble.

It is hinted that bond sellers who have gone South are not meeting with flattering success. The press there is quite unfavorable toward bond companies. The endowment orders, however, seem to meet with encouragement.

Massoit lodge, I. O. O. F., of Brockton has voted to enlarge the room and make extensive improvements. When completed the lodge will have one of the finest quarters in the city.

The Iron Hall is running along in capital style and is calling only one assessment a month.

Blake lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Worcester, celebrated its 20th anniversary Wednesday evening, with a banquet and entertainment at Castle hall. Visitors from other lodges were present and quite elaborate arrangements were made for the event.

Puritan lodge, Knights and Ladies of Honor, of Worcester presented the drama, "Border Land," at Grand Army hall, last evening. The lodge offered a prize of a silver cake basket to the lady, and a parlor lamp to the gentleman, members of the three lodges of the order in the city, selling the most tickets. The entertainment concluded with a social dance.

The Red Men expect to secure about 50 candidates for the coming exemplification of the degree of Red Menship. The local Tribe pays a sick and death benefit and has a splendid record for attending to sick brothers.

The attention of all Knights Templar is called to an adv. offering for sale a regalia. It is a bargain.

The Order of the Red Cross paid off 300 members in Boston last week, at a cost of $43 and now offers itself for patronage in this city. It pays $100 in one year.

Apollo lodge I. O. O. F., initiated eight candidates Wednesday evening, and has others in view.

Quite a delegation of Chapter Masons from Leominster visited this city Wednesday evening and witnessed the work by the officers of Thomas Royal Arch Chapter.

The Independent Order of Foresters, with headquarters in Toronto, Canada, but having no connection with the Ancient Order of Foresters, is to enter New Hampshire and Massachusetts. It is now operating in New York, Illinois, Michigan and other states.

According to a printed list no less than 909 assessment companies have gone out of business during the past eight years, leaving 1,850,000 sorrowing policy holders without a dollar to divide among them.

The degrees conferred by Jerusalem Commandery, K. T., Thursday evening, were conferred by Past Commanders. Those who witnessed the work pronounced it exceedingly fine and highly complimented the officers.

MASONS.

Monday evening last, Tyrian lodge, A. F. and A. M., of Gloucester, Mass., celebrated its 121st anniversary. At the time of the formation of the lodge, the town included all Cape Ann, comprising about 5000 inhabitants, about one-half of whom resided in Gloucester proper, and the usual place of meeting of the newly formed institution was probably in the village tavern. The officers jewels were made by Paul Revere and are still worn by the officers of the lodge and are highly prized. They are stamped with the artisan's initials, P. R., and are made of solid silver. The records show that on Jan. 2, 1781, it was voted that Brother Stephen Bruce be directed as proxy for Tyrian Lodge to vote in the Grand Lodge for Gen. Washington as grand master-general of the United States, and Thursday, Dec. 11, 1800, it was voted "that the lodge wear a badge of mourning on Sunday, the 14th inst., in remembrance of our late worthy grand master, George Washington."

Aurora Lodge of this city was chartered June 8th., 1801 at Leominster and was removed to Fitchburg, March 17, 1845. The original charter has never been surrendered and is still used by the lodge. The records of this old organization are full of interest and are greatly prized by the masonic fraternity.

The Taunton Masons will exemplify the first three degrees of Masonry on Fast day. The proposed exemplification by the lodges of this city has been abandoned for the present season.

A KNIGHT TEMPLAR'S REGALIA FOR SALE.

At a very low price. Exceptional bargain. Inquire at this office.

JUST RECEIVED!

The following latest styles of frizzes, Nadjy, $1.75, Patti, $2.50 and Peola, $3.00. These have the same effect as one's own hair cut and curled. Can guarantee these to be first-class in every respect.

I have on hand six dozen of new wrappers in dark and light, ranging in price from $.50 to $2.00.

AT THE

CITY HAIR STORE,

183 Main Street, Up Stairs.

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER.

Special Notice!

A. L. Williams & Co.

Expect a large assortment

—OF—

Chocolate Goods, Bonbons, Etc.

—FOR—

SATURDAY.

PRICES VERY LOW.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Doten have been spending a week in New York selecting new fashions in millinery for the spring trade. They have been in the business for more than 20 years and have had experience in every branch of the trade. During the past 10 years their trade has increased in consequence of their variety of styles and reasonable prices. They expect to make this season the best in the history of the old stand. The ladies will do well to step in and view the variety of millinery our male reporter is afraid to attempt deseribing.

Is Fitchburg to have a ball team this summer? We give it up.

Now is the time for our clothing merchants to "spring overcoats" on their customers.

Quite a number of persons have visited B. L. Rich & Co's music ware rooms to see the gift organ, given by Dr. Sidney to the new Baptist church.

J. F. Chaffin has recently added quite a number of instruments to his already large stock. Mr. Chaffin has done much during the past few years to create *harmony* in all circles of society in this city.

Chamberlain & Huntress have added a new carpet room to their already pretty store. They would like to talk carpets to you as may be seen in another column.

Tickets for "Babie" are meeting with a ready sale. Apparently the amateurs are going to be greeted with a large audience.

"Jim the Penman" at the opera house. Palmer's company will produce it, which is a great treat.

Lowell will have a capital base ball team this year. Nearly $900, has already been subscribed with prospects of doubling the amount. How about Fitchburg?

It is now Spring. Beautiful, balmy Spring. The time of year when editors generally, practice the manly art upon would be Longfellows. It is the season for taking something for the blood. We could not find a better time to "spring" Town Talk than now.

Pictures of the amateur performers at the opera house, Fast day are on exhibition in W. F. Lovering's, G. M. Faulkner's and E. M. Read's stores. With the exception of the picture of the Mandolin and Guitar club which is the work of Mr. Kimball all the pictures were made by Howard.

E. M. Reed's candies are becoming so popular that a supply will in the future be kept on hand at T. S. Maloon & Co's store.

Coleman & Drury call special attention to their new dinner sets. The prices are reasonable and the style and quality of the ware cannot be surpassed.

Tickets for "Babie" to be produced Fast day night are on sale Saturday. Secure a good seat.

It looks like Spring to see the little army of men at work cleaning up Main street.

A letter from Washington will interest our lady readers and all others who have ever visited that city.

We are asked to state that there are quite a number of Nationalists and Single Tax Men in this city and if any one is willing to endeavor to get them together a good sized club could be formed. Our informant asserts that our raven is a little mistaken in saying that there are only a few in this city who take interest in Bellamy's scheme, but regrets that some one does not come forward to organize the followers into an association or club. We are willing to give the Nationalists notice when they desire it.

A rather good joke is going the rounds about a well-known doctor. Miss Emma Chaffin has been painting a fruit picture for S. W. Huntley and when completed it was put aside for inspection. Dr. Brigham had occasion to visit Mr. Chaffin's house a few days ago and on passing through the room noticed the picture on the table. The subject was an overturned basket of oranges, and being a lover of the fruit he went to the table and attempted to take one of the oranges in his hand. His friend now bother him by asking how he likes Miss Chaffin's oranges.

Arrangements have been made for horse cars to run to West and South Fitchburg after the Forester's ball Monday evening. By special request Fred Blodget, of Eastman's orchestra will give a trombone solo for which he is noted.

Bowker & Holland sent in a change of adv., too late for use calling special attention to their safety bicycles of which they have 35 different models to select from See change next week.

Mr. Willard, florist, will have an elegant display of flowers to-day and this evening. He will keep open till 10 or 11 p. m. and invites lovers of floral beauty to call and see the display.

The union Fast day service will be held in the Methodist church at 10.30 a. m. next Thursday. Rev. F. O. Hall will preach the sermon and other city pastors take part in the service.

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

Are Showing a Magnificent Line of

SPRING CLOTHING.

BOYS' & CHILDREN'S SUITINGS.

EASTER NECKWEAR IN THE MOST BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS.

HATS—We can give you all the New Blocks.

SILK HATS—In Young Men's and Broadway Blocks.

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

ONE PRICE

CLOTHIERS, HATTERS & FURNISHERS,

141 & 143 MAIN ST., COR. LAUREL.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.
THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE to St. Albans, St. Johns, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.

ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, †3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at †7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, †8.10 and 11.30 a. m., †2.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at †4.50 p. m.

†Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
. N. MARSHALL, Div . Supt.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.
LADY EVMA CHAPTER, O. E. S.

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes. The contest closes May 30, but votes will be accepted up to June 3. A few back numbers on hand.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

Meats and Provisions,

EARLY .·. VEGETABLES

—AND—

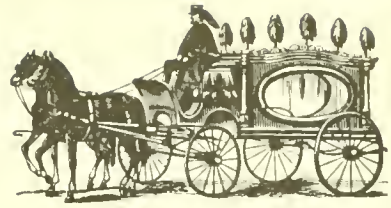
POULTRY

—AT—

G. H. RANDEL'S

CENTRAL MARKET.

Orders filled with promptness and despatch. Prices that defy competition for the quality of the goods.



H. A. LESURE. F. D. LESURE

LESURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 DAY ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

C. AUSTIN WHITCOMB.

TEACHER OF VIOLIN AND GUITAR.

5 Atlantic Ave, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ALBERT B. DAMON,

TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.

37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Dining Rooms, Etc.

HOTEL WESTMORELAND.

25 TO 29 DAY STREET.

Ladies' and Gents' Dining Rooms. Board by the day or week. Good rooms, polite attention and good service. Everything first-class.

F. W. ALDRICH, Prop'r.

HOWARTH'S RESTAURANT.

FOR LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

40 DAY STREET.

First-class service and reasonable rates. Board by the day or week.

JOHN HOWARTH, Propr.

DRURY'S DINING ROOMS.

144 MAIN STREET.

BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.

For Ladies and Gentlemen.

First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.

G. E. HAYWARD, Propr.

SPRING GOODS!

We are daily receiving Spring Goods at the

Central Shoe Store, 185 Main St.

Full worth for your money is guaranteed on every purchase. Our specialties are the

W. L. Douglas,
Nox-Em-All and
Quaker Shoes.

All goods warranted as represented.

D. H. PIERCE'S
CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,
185 Main St.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

Boston, Mar. 27, 1891.

Our cry for street sprinklers was promptly responded to, at no expense to the city either. The dust is pretty well laid at this writing, and now that old "Sol" has crossed the line, it is safe enough to predict a bright sunny Easter.

The rain did no end of good in helping along the early spring blossoms. This fact was developed by a stroll across the Public Garden and down Beacon street. Some of the trees are already budding and the dear little crocuses are peeping up saucily from the garden plots. All nature is suggestive of the resurrection this day commemorates. Who can doubt an Immortality when we see God's handiwork so manifested in the flowers and verdure around us.

We have been somewhat saddened during the week by the death of Lawrence Barrett, who was quietly laid away last Tuesday at Cohasset Mass. He was a refined and careful impersonator of Shakespeare, the best Cassius of the century. He was a self-made actor, an honorable pure-minded man, a scholar and soldier. Being a great admirer of the best in the dramatic art, especially of the classic, the thought comes to my mind, as well as to that of thousands of others, whom have we to fill his place? It is said that Edwin Booth may not act again, he having taken his friend's death very keenly to heart. If so, our loss will be a double one.

While attending the opening of the Vincent Hospital, a package of photographs arrived from Lawrence Barrett accompanied by a letter, expressing his interest in the hospital and paying a high tribute to the memory of that "dear old lady" Mrs. J. R. Vincent, for whom the hospital is named. One of his last acts was to place his autograph on these pictures.

From Robert G. Insersoll,—"will this drama have an end, will the curtain fall at last and will it rise again on some other stage? Reason says perhaps; hope still whispers yes." All readers of that paragraph must have been impressed with its significance, as emanating from the lips of the great atheist. Is he changing his views?

So Maine is wheeling into line on the Australian Ballot law! Massachusetts can plume herself on setting so good an example.

The Easter decorations at Trinity and First church bid fair to excel all previous attempts. Doyle, as usual, will have charge and he will furnish about 1800 potted plants, one of which is to be presented to each pupil in the Sunday schools a charming custom which should be followed in all cities. Mr. Doyle owns the famous Hovey conservatories at Cambridge, which, by the way, are well worth visiting at any time. They are not far from the entrance to Mt. Auburn.

How very inconsistent some would-be reformers are! Now, as to brandy drops being intoxicating, am inclined to agree with the physician who says that by the time one has eaten enough candy containing alcohol, to produce the slightest feeling of intoxication, he or she will be in far greater danger from the sugar, terra-alba, etc., with which the stomach is loaded, than from the stimulant. Temperance is a grand good thing but it should be applied to eating as well as drinking.

Easter also suggests Spring bonnets. It is an accepted fact that the ladies all like to put on something new, just for luck, on Easter day! The Spring styles are very fetching. In millinery we notice at all the openings a tendency toward the decorative, bright flowers, gilt butterflies, and the airiest, daintiest and most frivolous confections. The size of the bonnets is out of all proportion to that of the bill. They look as though a puff of wind would blow them away. Hats for Summer will be large and nearly all, large and small, are tied beneath the chin.

Governor Russell is executing the commissions entrusted to him, to the satisfaction of all who are not blinded by prejudice. His steps are taken in the right direction, in instituting much needed reforms, particularly at the State Prison. He moves cautiously without fear or favor.

As "great oaks from little acorns grow" so "great aches from little toe corns grow." The orignal chiropodist, Dr. Kenison has passed away and we must look for relief elsewhere. For 30 years he practiced his trade in our city, with marvelous success.

Another new theatre for Boston. A home for minstrelsy, with George Thatcher at its head. Good enough!

Cleveland's minstrels with those inimitable mirth provokers, Sweatman & Rice come to the Park on Monday, giving an extra performance on Fast Day, April 2. It was with regret we allowed "Ship Ahoy" to set sail. This is by all odds the brightest little opera since "Pinafore" and goes it one better, because of being strictly American on an American topic.

Thatcher's minstrels at the Boston, are sure to draw big houses. Charlie Reed of "City Directory" fame has joined them.

"Billy" Crane will have a rousing welcome at the Hollis street in that delightful drama, "The Senator" on Monday.

New play at the Museum.

Charming Marie Tempest at the Tremont. Don't miss her!

At music hall, April 4th, we are to have an Operatic Festival Matinee, with the best talent available. A rare treat in store for New England music lovers

MARION HOWARD.

SAVE
YOUR DIMES!
MAGIC
Pocket Savings Banks
Cannot be opened until $5.00 in Dimes have been deposited.
REGISTERS AMOUNT DEPOSITED.
Only 25 Cts. Each.
AT J. E. THOMPSON'S,
Stationer and Newsdealer, 181 Main St.

HORTON'S BAKERY,
306 Main St., - Fitchburg.
NEAR POST-OFFICE.
Bread, cake and pastry fresh every day. A full assortment of plain, fancy and ornamented cake always on hand.
TRY OUR CREAM BREAD.
The best materials procurable used in the manufacture of all our goods.
D. G. HORTON.

Come in and See
MY NEW LINE OF
WALL PAPERS,
MOULDINGS,
Window Shades, &c.
Window Shades made and hung to order
GEO. Z. PAGE
359 MAIN STREET.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Mar. 25, 1891.

Not even the most confirmed optimist could have been led to think this year "we are to have an early spring." Rain, rain, and yet more rain, has been the order of the day for the past month, with just a day or two at the most of sunshine at one time to relieve the dull skies. Not warm, softly falling rain, which causes the buds to swell and coaxes the bulbs to push through the brown earth, but rain that comes down in floods, driven by northeast winds bringing a chill from the snowdrifts of the north.

"Well, Emmeline," we say to the old washerwoman when she comes to our room Monday morning, "what is the prospect for getting your clothes dry today?"

"The *weather-wise* on the market says the wind is nor'west," is the reply, and we are left to gather what hope we may.

An appeal to Aunt Louisa, the dear old auntie who has had charge of a room in the Treasury building for 25 years past, brings a twinkle to her beady black eyes, and a smile lights up her face as she says, "It's kase the gals is so naughty. Yes, my love, the gals is so naughty the Father makes it rain. Boys can play if it does rain." And so the bad weather, like every unpleasant thing since Adam's time is "blamed on" the weaker sex, and even from our own ranks comes the accusation "there's a woman in it."

But if the trees are slow in putting on their green, and the flowering shrubs only show a glint of color here and there, the florists have put forth an extra effort, and their displays transport us at once from cloudy skies and chilling winds to a fairy palace or a tropical scene. In one window we see a platform covered with green mosses and fine, close-growing ferns, divided by gravel walks, which represents the White House grounds at an Easter egg rolling. The children are playing about with their eggs in their hands, while the nurse maids stand near carefully watching their little charges, and the green is dotted with brightly colored eggs. One little boy, (presumably Baby McKee, who has recently donned knickerbockers,) has fallen headlong in his eagerness to send his egg farther than the others, while a pretty little girl watches him with sympathetic eyes. Overhead is a canopy of ferns, with a floral easter egg hanging from the centre, jeweled with tiny electric lights.

Another window has a large cross of ivy, surrounded by a white crown of flowers from whose blossoms gleam electric lights, and at the foot blooms the Crist thorn. The interior of the store is a bewildering mass of bloom and the air is heavy with fragrance. Tall palms reach their branches to the high ceiling. Against a background of ferns and asparagus vines stand roses of every variety and hue. "The aim now is to cultivate for size," says the proprietor, and it would seem that the object has been achieved, for surely nothing more could be desired in this direction than the roses before us. Annunciation lilies, orchids of fantastic shape and brilliant coloring, azaleas, tulips and hyacinths, each a marvel of beauty and perfume, make up the bewildering scene, by which we may enjoy an anticipation of spring until Easter Monday, with its never-failing warmth and sunshine gives us the genuine article, which if less prefect in the minor details from the florist's point of view, is like all natural things superior to the artificial.

One of the picturesque figures seen about town these days is that of General Benjamin F. Butler. His broad-brimmed, soft, black felt hat over-shadowing the striking face which has been familiar to every one in the United States for more than a quarter, of a century, attracts universal attention. His house, built of Quincy granite, located opposite the Capitol, is equally striking, and strangers as they are slowly carried up the hill in a Pennsylvania avenue horse car invariably turn their eyes from the goddess of liberty towards this solid structure with the inquiry, "What building is that?" The house, or houses, have not been occupied as residences for some years, with the exception of a few rooms where the General keeps up an establishment for his accommodation when sojourning in Washington. The last occupant of the Butler house was Senator Jones of Nevada, who rented it furnished at a rate of $5000 a year, and it was here that President Arthur was entertained during the time the White House was draped with mourning after the death of President Garfield. After Senator Jones removed it was rented by the Government for the use of Congressional Committees, and it is probable that the Government will eventually purchase the whole property. The death of Mr. Strong, with whom the General has been waging a legal warfare for so many years, did not interrupt the proceedings, and "The Strong will Case" is one of the regular headings of the daily papers. Happening in at the Department of Justice a few days since we found General Butler entertaining the little daughter of Assistant Attorney General Cotton with war reminiscences and a description of some war relics which he said he could show her if she was at his house.

ELWELL.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

TOWN TALK!

FURNITURE!

CASH OR CREDIT.

GATELY & CO.

50 DAY STREET.

WE OFFER

This week, a crate of Anthony Shaw & Son's Iron-Stone China

DINNER SETS

Of 112 pieces, in blue and brown, at the low price of $10.00 per set. This is an unusual bargain. Any Iron-Stone China bearing the stamp of Anthony Shaw & Son

IS A GUARANTEE

that the quality of ware is first-class. We will show these Sets with pleasure.

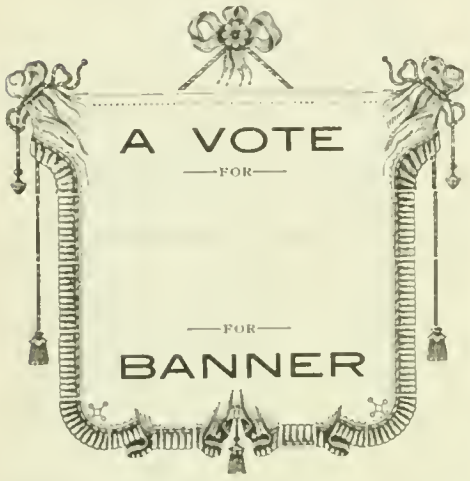
COLEMAN & DRURY,

138 MAIN STREET.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST
—IN—
TOWN TALK.



Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

Nellie McHenry at the opera house.
Foresters' ball at city hall.

WEDNESDAY.

Jim the Penman at the opera house.
All Fools Carnival at city hall.
Football Club dance at G. A. R. hall.

THURSDAY.

Babic at the opera house.

FRIDAY.

Primrose & West's minstrels at the opera house.
Kneisel Quartette at Phillips chapel.
Fusileers Social in Armory.

A. R. CHILTON
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIONS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL ST.

HEADQUARTERS
FOR
PURE
MAPLE
SYRUP
AT
JOSLIN'S O. L. P. C.

FERDINAND & AUSTIN,
Liberal House Furnishers

True Sayings are Appreciated. *Bargains are Appreciated.*

CARPETS. CARPETS.

Such reliable makes as Ivins, Dietz & Magee, Lowell Mfg. Co., Roxbury Carpet Co., and a dozen other reliable makes, in the latest choicest patterns.

Dundee Carpet, only 21½ cts. per yard.

Ten pieces of Ingrain Carpets, exceedingly low prices.

RUGS. RUGS.

Smyrna Rugs, 25 per cent. off list price.

Napier Matting, 20, 30 and 40 cts. per yard.

Oil Cloth, a few pieces for 15 cts. per yard.

CLOCKS. CLOCKS.

Imitation French Marble Clocks, eight-day movements, strike half-hours cathedral gongs, every clock warranted, price $5.

PARLOR SUITS.

In Brocatelles, Silk Plushes, Silk Damask, Mohair Plushes, etc., our own make—equal to the best.

$21.50 Suit, Formerly $35.

You will find us the lowest priced upholsterers. We have a great number of high art pieces of upholstered furniture in the muslin, ready to be covered, a fine line of choice coverings to select from.

CHAMBER SETS.

SOLID ASH CHAMBER SET, $12.

Old English is the latest fad, and is taking well; finely polished set, bevel plate glass, the side grain of the wood attracts one's attention, and the price sells them. A very heavy set at $50.

SIDEBOARDS.

$15, formerly $23. $18, formerly $25. $25, formerly $36.

STOVES AND RANGES.

Largest stock of Stoves in the city. Old stove, first payment; $1 each week.

PARLOR TABLES.

In XVIth Century, Antique and Old English Finish.

SILVER-PLATED WARE.

Large line of Plated Knives, Rogers Bros.' best quadruple plate.

CROCKERY.

A few good DinnerSets for only $6.97.

BABY CARRIAGES.

We have received a choice line of carriages. A good carriage for $2.85.

LAMPS. LAMPS.

Library, Hall and Banquet Lamps in large variety

REFRIGERATORS.

Sample order received. Prices low. Buy Early.

Easy Terms if desired. **Goods Delivered to any Railroad Station in New England.**

FERDINAND & AUSTIN, SUCCESSORS TO M WEBBER, 219 & 221 MAIN ST.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.] NUMBER 14.] FITCHBURG, MASS., APRIL 4, 1891. [$2.00 PER YEAR. [5 CENTS A COPY.

FREE

PHOTOGRAPHS!

ONE DOZEN

CABINET OR BOUDOIR

Photographs

FROM THE

STUDIO OF J. C. MOULTON

Free to any Customer, by the Following Plan:

To any purchaser of our goods to the value of $50, or more, we give an order for ONE DOZEN CABINET PHOTOGRAPHS, and if the purchase amounts to $100, or more, an order for ONE DOZEN BOUDOIR PHOTOGRAPHS.

The pictures will be Mr. Moulton's best work. Cash sales and sales on time count alike, and the orders are given when the sale is made.

Chamber Sets for $12.50, $13.50, and $14.50, in Solid Ash.

Complete line of House Keeping goods for Cash or on time by our Special System of Credit.

PHILBROOK

HOUSE FURNISHING

COMPANY,

Successors to CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

MISS ISSIE BROOKS.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

Fitchburg can boast of having some really fine singers even though it is not considered one of the most musical of cities. Among those who are gaining a reputation that extends far beyond our city limits is Miss Issie Brooks the favorite young contralto at the Universalist church. During the past two years her name has been constantly before the public and on all occasions she has met with a most cordial reception. Her professional career can only be regarded as just commencing, her ambition being to become a vocal teacher or a member of some noted concert company. She has for some time past been a pupil of the noted Boston teacher, Charles R. Adams, and a few weeks ago sang the role of Azucena in "Trovatore," with most flattering success, in Mr. Adam's operatic recital. Her friends and admirers predict a great future for her. Miss Brooks is a native of this city and was born May 19, 1871. Her childhood has been spent in this city and her class at the high school graduates this year. She commenced singing at the Universalist church when 17 years old and has remained there since. She will sing at the Phillips Chapel, on Tuesday evening next in company with Mrs. Wallace at a concert for the benefit of the Baldwinville Cottages.

WHISPERS AND RUMORS

The Keene, N. H., *Sentinel* is responsible for the following: People who were on their way to church Sunday morning, were some of them surprised to see a man drive into the Square with a two-horse rig and an empty oil barrel, and gaze around at the stores in blank astonishment. The man appeared in town again Monday and makes the following confession: He left his home in Gilsum early Sunday morning, with the intention of purchasing a barrel of oil and some other household necessities and coming down Court street he noticed the people were all dressed up and wondered what could be going on. Driving into the square he noticed the stores were all closed and came to the conclusion that something unusual was to take place. Not daring to make enquiries of the people upon the street, owing to the striking contrast between his team and the "dressed-up" city people, he thought he would have his horses shod and enquire at the blacksmith's shop what was going on. Driving down Church street he found the blacksmith's shop closed also, but happening to meet an acquaintance he accosted him with the inquiry, "What's going on here today; the stores all closed and everybody dressed up?" His friend kindly informed him that the stores always closed Sunday and that the people usually dressed up to go to church. Acknowledging his ignorance our friend returned to his home via all the back streets he could find, and when in the city Monday making his purchases, explained that he and his wife had both lost the run of the days of the week and thought Sunday was a week day.

Considerable talk is indulged in certain quarters about the Jews returning to Palestine, the ancient land of their forefathers. The persecution of these people by the Russians has stirred up the question of an asylum for the race, and as most of those in Russia are poor, the active charity of the wealthy class is called for to find them an asylum. Baron Hirsch pours out his millions to aid his fellow religionists to emigrate to America, but many think he would do better to unite with other wealthy members of the Hebrew organization and buy up the whole territory of Judea and Galilee and then plant the descendants of Abraham in the neighborhood of his other descendants, the Arabs. Rabbi Schindler of Boston is not in favor of the movement and preached a vigorous sermon on the subject recently. Rev. Minot J. Savage says it would be as crazy as an attempt to colonize the moon. So the poor Jew must continue to wander.

"Well, good night, Miss Edith," said a young man the other evening to a girl whom he had been visiting. "I think it's better for me to go. I feel certain that if I linger two minutes longer I shall have to kiss you."

"Well, good night, Mr. Dudely," replied the young lady. "But wait, I want to show you my new sachet bag before you go. It will only take a few minutes."

It isn't necessary to state that the young man caught on and embraced the situation, and we can further assert that the girl was "in it."

H. A. Goodrich, President. E. B. Rockwood, Treasurer. F. C. Currier, Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS

MUTUAL AID SOCIETY,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

A Simple, plain plan of LIFE INSURANCE adapted to the needs of the people. Its 12 years of successful operation has shown that economy in management saves cost to its members.

Persons with small incomes can secure protection in this Society. It is increasing in members—adding since Jan. 1, 1891, 80 new members.

Those who feel the need of insurance protection are invited to investigate and become members.

Another chance to get those

17 ct. CHOCOLATES

—ON—

SATURDAY.

E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

You ought to know

THAT YOU CAN BUY PURE MILK FOR FOUR CENTS A QUART,

—AT—

The Public Markets,

177 MAIN ST. 374

L. A. Cousins, Prop.

Stock Larger and Better Than Ever Before.

$10,000

Worth of new Spring Goods now coming in.

A SPECIALTY

Recently purchased from one of the best houses in the country.

An immense pile of Business Suits which we propose to sell at the uniform price of

$10 PER SUIT.

This line includes Fine Worsted, All Wool Cassimeres in different shades; All Wool Cheviots in Sack Suits, Frock Suits and Cutaways in all the latest designs; all to be sold at $10 per Suit.

Many of these would be cheap at $15 but they all go in at $10 per Suit.

We have also every grade of Dress Suits at most reasonable prices.

Whatever you read, whatever you see, don't forget this.

☞That H. A. Goodrich & Co. will not be undersold.

☞That the Goods they offer are the best in the market.

☞That they guarantee satisfaction every time.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

Special Notice!

A. L. Williams & Co.

Expect a large assortment

—OF—

Chocolate Goods, Bonbons, Etc.

—FOR—

SATURDAY.

PRICES VERY LOW.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 MAIN ST.,

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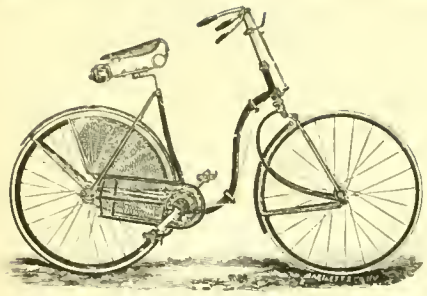


You Must Ride a Bicycle if you want to Stand Striaghter, Hit Harder, Look Better, Feel Better and Work Better.

Your First Day with the Victor Cushing Tire will be a Red Letter Day.

BUY THE BEST!

BUY A VICTOR.

WITH CUSHION TIRE.

EASY TERMS IF DESIRED.

F. A. BROWN, AGT.,
WITH JEWETT PIANO CO., LEOMINSTER.

C. W. ANDERSON,
26 PLEASANT ST., FITCHBURG.

AMERICAN RAMBLER

We guarantee this machine and *warrant* it for one year. *Terms easy.*

EXAMINE IT IN OUR WINDOW.

A. B. LAWRENCE & CO.

216 MAIN STREET.

The only wheels at medium prices combining all the improvements of the day. Ball Bearings all over, including head. Spring Fork, Spring Frame, Etc.

CASH OR INSTALMENTS.

ALLEN & SPINNEY, AGENTS,
133 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

Australia has 5,000 cycle riders.

Attractive catalogues constitute quite a feature of this year's cycle trade.

Ordinaries fitted with pneumatic tired rear wheels are coming into considerable use "across the briny."

Miss Ellen Terry, the actress takes a great interest in out door sports and is President of the Ladies' Cycling Club, in London.

Pauline Hall, the actress, is an enthusiastic wheelwomen and when recently playing in New Haven and Providence, was presented in both cities with gigantic floral "bikes" from the league members of each place.

Sidney J. Francis calls attention to his Columbia Wheels this week. A cut of his wheel will appear next week. Last week we erroneously gave the agency of the Columbia to C. W. Anderson.

A. B. Lawrence is agent for the New Mail which sells at $100. He is also agent for the boys' Little Giant with spring fork and the Crescent, an $85 machine, now selling for $70. All who are interested in bicycles are invited to call and try the Rambler.

Bowker & Holland invite would-be cyclists to call and examine the Warwick Perfection. This machine has all ball bearings and weighs 42 lbs. It is equipped with cushion tires and all the latest improvements. This is the wheel adopted by the U. S. government for the mail service.

Among the new additions to the ranks of the wheelmen in Fitchburg will be found A. C. Brown, Walter Freeman and Frank E. Rowley who are using Allen & Spinney's Giant; F. Bliss, F. F. Kennedy, F. A. Brown, F. R. Nutting, G. F. Stocker and H. B. Allen riding on Charles Anderson's Victor; Ned Brandon, E. W. Fletcher and A. R. Stearns who running on Ferdinand & Austin's Diamond.

Every wheelman should join the L. A. W. The advantages of League membership are too manifold to mention without many words and much space. The strength of concerted action by a large body of men, well organized, is the factor that makes success in its every undertaking; and the League does undertake to accomplish for its members and wheelmen generally, such rights and the enjoyment thereof as any reasonable man can ask.—[Abbot Bassett, Sec'y. There are many cyclists here now and the Fitchburg bicycle club ought to be revived. It was the sixth club to be formed in this country and has never been dissolved.

Of ladies wheels Mr. Francis and Mr. Anderson claim the best. The ladies' Victor is said to be specially built for ladies, and its owners claim that it is an unqualified success. The owners and agents of the ladies' Columbia, on the other hand claim that their machine is the best before the public.

In Union there is strength.
The only practical Spring Frame.

THE WARWICK PERFECTION CYCLES.

Adopted by the United States Government for the mail service.

SOLID CUSHION OR PNEUMATIC TIRES.

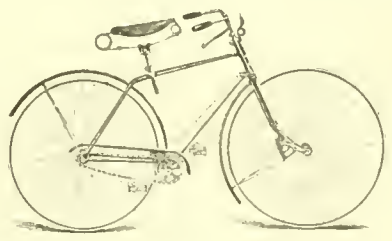
Second-hand safeties cheap; 35 different models to select from.

Also, a full line of sundries.

Call and see us before purchasing elsewhere.

BOWKER & HOLLAND,
162 MAIN STREET.

IT'S A COLUMBIA.
IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.



Cushion or Solid Tires, Stiff or Spring Forks.

CASH OR INSTALLMENTS.

S. J. FRANCIS, Agent.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

New York is sure that spring has come for the first circus has made its street parade and barbers have begun to use cold water on customers' chins.

There is a great scarcity of ten cent pieces, not only here but all about us. It is said to be owing to the efforts being made to fill up the dime savings banks which are having such a large sale.

Lawrence is the latest city in the country to establish the office of the inspector of wires. Under the ordinance, the official will have exclusive charge of all the fire alarm telegraph apparatus and machinery in the city. The salary is set at $1500.

It may be some time before the $1,304,095.37 appropriated by the last Congress to pay the awards under the French spoliation claims already certified to Congress is distributed to the claimants. At the end of the long act on the claims there is a proviso that is so ambiguous that it has been referred to the attorney-general for authoritative construction, and until he gets his opinion ready the matter will be hung up.

Eddie Lamson, of Lowell aged 14, son of Mr. N. G. Lamson of the Merrimack River savings bank, unhesitatingly did an act last week that many a man would have shrunk in fear from doing, and that entitles him, young as he is, to a place as "One of the Bravest." He, in company with Johnnie Lewis and a son of Dr. Bailey was walking along the river bank in the vicinity of Hunt's falls, when the earth caved away and the Bailey boy was whirled away in the current. He could not swim, and like a flash young Lamson sprang into the icy, foaming current and struck out for his drowning companion. When he reached the place the Bailey boy had sunk but shortly reappeared, and as Lamson reached him he threw both arms about him with the desperation of death. Then commenced such a struggle for life as two young lads are seldom called upon to fight. The rescuer kept his wits about him, loosed the frantic boy's hold upon his arms, and, aided by the current, reached the bank and both were pulled ashore by the Lewis boy, exhausted and chilled to the bone.

All the enterprising people in this section, are looking over their lawns and gardens, preparatory to the summer campaign.

E. H. Forbush, who recently resigned the presidency of the Worcester Natural History society, has accepted an appointment as a member of the new state commission for the extermination of the gypsy moth, and has been chosen director of the field work of the commission. The details of the work not fully planned, but its general scope is decided upon. He proposes to divide and subdivide the territory, and obtain the best men possible for the work. He is now training a party of 15 or 20, most of whom are students of the Agricultural college at Amherst, and will send them out in charge of gangs of 15 or 20 other men each to push the work of extermination. Each gang will work in a sub-district of its own and cover the ground thoroughly.

Mr. Forbush will adopt a very strict policy with all of his assistants and will insist that all shall be courteous, gentlemanly and efficient, and he will summarily discharge any one who indulges in profanity. He is to be assisted in his work by Professor Riley of the department of agriculture. A large quantity of paris green is being analyzed, to ascertain its purity. Before commencing field work, experiments will be tried in the office by hatching insects and giving them branches sprayed with paris green to feed upon. If its effect is speedy and sure, field work will be pushed at once.

Rollstone Creamery,
231 MAIN ST.,
Next door to the City Steam Laundry.
MILK, CREAM, BUTTER
—AND—
CREAMERY SUPPLIES,
Fresh and nice every day.
Give us a call.

Vanderwarker, the Jeweler,
187 MAIN ST.
EMBLEMS A SPECIALTY.

SPRING

is with us and we are right in the swim with the greatest collection of new, choice

Spring Merchandise

—FOR—

Men's, Boys' and Children's

WEAR

it has ever been our good fortune to own.

We are strictly one price, and that price we guarantee as low as the lowest.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

UNDER THE OPERA HOUSE.

SAVE
YOUR DIMES!
MAGIC
Pocket Savings Banks
Cannot be opened until $5.00 in Dimes have been deposited.
REGISTERS AMOUNT DEPOSITED.
Only 25 Cts. Each.
AT J. E. THOMPSON'S,
Stationer and Newsdealer, 181 Main St.

W. H. KEATING,
BARBER,
173 MAIN ST., - - - UP STAIRS.
Come in and see us. Cosy and comfortable quarters and prompt attention.

NOTHING LIKE
Honduras
Sarsaparilla
—FOR A—
SPRING MEDICINE.
$.75 a bottle: 3 bottles for $2.00.
Prepared only by
D. H. JOEL,
DRUGGIST, - 207 MAIN ST.

COAL
LACKAWANNA.
CHESTNUT.
$7 PER TON.
HARD.
SOFT.
WOOD
8 Baskets Best Hard Wood, $1.00
10 " Mixed " " 1.00
Best Hard Wood, per cord, 5.50
Soft Wood, " 3.50
Best Green White Birch Wood, per cord, . . . 4.50
Splints, per bunch, . . .05
100 cords dry wood in our sheds ready for delivery. All orders by mail or otherwise promptly delivered.
F. H. ARNOLD,
16 HARWOOD PLACE.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

The silver anniversary of the Grand Army of the Republic, which will occur one week from next Monday, promises to call forth many patriotic demonstrations. A quarter of a century seems a long time to look back, and the retrospect involves many sad memories. But there are also many causes for national thankfulnss, and the men who helped to save the Union can take pride in commemorating the event.

In his report on a recent fatal fire in Brooklyn, the Fire Marshal of that city says that if people would educate themselves as to the proper manner of sending out an alarm of fire and locating the fire-boxes in their respective neighborhoods they would assist the department in arriving sooner at a fire. The suggestion is a pertinent one, as it is safe to say that but few householders ever take the trouble to find out where an alarm-box is located or where the key is kept. Fortunately we do not have many fires, but it is well to keep posted all the same.

There is no branch of the fruit or produce trade that has shown such a healthy condition of affairs in its particular line as the banana trade. Locally this fruit increases in popularity and dealers send out large orders. During the year of 1890 the increase in general shipments was nearly three and a half million bunches over that of 1889, and the fruit has not yet reached its limit of shipments but is ever on the gain. In Jamaica fruit there has been an increase of over 762,000 bunches from this island alone, while other ports, with the exception of Honduras and Port Limon, have materially increased. The choicest bananas come from the island of Banes. The flesh is of a yellow color, highly nutritious, solid and full of meat, with many good qualities also visible in fruit coming from other ports. According to the total number of bunches that came into the United States in 1890, the average is one bunch of bananas for every five persons. The best of it is that the fruit is healthful.

A singular complication has turned up in Chicago. The Caxton Building, twelve stories high, and designed especially for the occupancy of printing offices and like concerns, was, writes a correspondent to the "National Publisher and Printer," completed last year, and was recently filled up. The building was calculated to sustain a weight of 375 tons to each floor, was made thoroughly fire-proof, and admirably arranged for the purposes for which it was designed. Many heavy presses were placed in the building, and seemed to have little or no effect upon it in the way of vibration, etc. But the Monon Building, immediately adjoining it on the north, one story higher, but not so substantially built, was so seriously affected by the presses in the Caxton as to make life in the former very unpleasant, even causing the tenants to give notice of their intention to vacate. Of course, the owners of the Caxton were under no obligation to change their tenants to please those of the Monon, but, with a liberality worthy of great praise, they have refused to admit any more heavy presses into the building, and are purchasing the leases of those already located there. Why these presses should have such an effect on an adjoining building, while having none on the building in which they were situated, is a matter beyond ordinary ken.

E. C. STOWE,
DEALER IN
LEAD, JAPANS,
OIL,
SHELLACS, PAINTS,
VARNISHES.
HOUSE PAINTING, HARD OIL FINISH, GRAINING, VARNISHING, ETC.
302 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MASS.

ECONOMY IN FUEL
BY THE USE OF THE
GAS CO'S PREPARED
COKE!
The Gas Company now has
PREPARED COKE ON HAND.
A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.
A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest, news, gossip, personals, notices of entertainments, gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything regarding the social side of the city's doings.]

The third annual ball of the Foresters was a great success in every detail. There was a large audience, the music was excellent, the decorations were very pretty, the supper very satisfactory and the dance was thoroughly enjoyed. The concert gave great satisfaction, the various numbers being liberally applauded. The trombone solo was beautifully rendered and the performer was highly complimented. The grand march was led by Daniel Sullivan and Miss Minnie Welch, 150 couples following. Although the floor was crowded with dancers the floor manager and his aids contrived to keep things moving smoothly and every couple got a good share of the evenings' pleasures. The Foresters ball is now a regular annual event and so long as the members of Court City of Fitchburg present such an excellent program of attractions it cannot fail to be a great success. Great praise is due to the Court, its officers and committees for the admirable arrangements they made for everybody's enjoyment. It is only fair to say that the third annual ball of the Foresters was one of the principal social events of the season.

On Friday next Lambeth's celebrated Scotch choir from Glasgow will appear at city hall. The choir consists of nine star artists who give selections of Scotch, English and Irish airs. This is the company's first tour in this country, but they are meeting with unexpected success. They have appeared in New York, Chicago, Toronto, Montreal, Boston, Milwaukee and other places and in every city have drawn crowded houses and given the utmost satisfaction. The newspapers of both countries speak of them in the highest terms of praise. This is the original Balmoral choir. The man does not exist, with any love for music, who does not like the good old-fashioned Scotch ballads and songs, and when rendered by the Lambeth's, it is indeed a privilege to hear them. See adv. in another column.

Among the many entertainments given by local talent none have been more favorably received than those given by the Fitchburg amateur minstrels assisted by the Russell Orchestra and the Fitchburg band. Their appearance this season will be made on Wednesday evening, April 15, with an entirely new program which will make the attraction this year better than ever. The performance will commence with an opening chorus written specially for the occasion by the celebrated composer Bulow. There will also be several new songs and ballads and an after piece arranged by Will L. Walker entitled Mik-a-doo which is a burlesque founded on the popular opera Mikado.

The amateur performance of "Babie" went off well. The situations lacked a little "dash" in one or two instances, but on the whole it was a creditable performance and quite enjoyable. The staging was certainly good and the make ups, especially the ladies, were admirable. The chief characters were well sustained by Will L. Walker, E. A. Brown, H. L. Chase, and F. B. Farrar and the following ladies: Mrs. H. L. Chase, Misses Grant, Brooks, Hosmer and Gressenich. The appearance of the Mandolin and Guitar Club was one of the principal features of the evening and their selections were warmly and deservedly applauded. The gentlemen composing the club show remarkable skill on their instruments and promise to achieve distinction. The singing by Misses Brooks and Hosmer and the banjo performance by Miss Grant and Mr. John J. Daesen were very fine and gave evident satisfaction. On the whole the performance was a great success.

The Fool's Carnival was a great attraction again this year and was well attended. It is one of the prettiest and most enjoyable entertainments of the season. The stage was very prettily decorated and the costumes worn by the fools were at once pretty, original and unique. The grand march commenced at 8 p. m., and Master Leon Chase was the king of fools. Master Chase is only a little fellow, not four years old, to command so many illustrious subjects, but he wielded his septre with dignity and grace. The committee in charge ought to be congratulated on having scored another success.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.

ARTISTIC

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A SPECIALTY.

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FLORIST,

GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.

Telephone 13-3.

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

Are Showing Most Elaborate Lines of

NECKWEAR FOUR-IN-HANDS, TECKS AND WINDSORS.

GLOVES.

We are headquarters for the Celebrated Jacob Adler Fine Kid and Dogskin Gloves in all the Spring Shades.

HATS.

In Brown, Tan and Black. Soft Hats in all the Leading Styles. Old Seeds are not to be frund in this stock.

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

ONE PRICE

CLOTHIERS, HATTERS & FURNISHERS,

141 & 143 MAIN ST., COR. LAUREL.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

The storm played havoc with the amusements, Friday evening.

Look over the advertisements. There are several new ones this week.

Mr. Doten has a large advertisement in another column which he asks the ladies to consider.

The committee on watering streets have the thanks of many people for bringing out the watering when so much needed.

A. G. Newton & Co. call attention to their special sale of rubbers etc., now going on. See advertisement this week and next for bargains.

Prof. Peck of Boston the eloquent speaker and talented singer will occupy the platform at Red Men's hall next Sunday at 1.30 and 7 p. m. All are cordially invited.

The Massachusetts Mutual Aid is now represented in our columns. This is a safe and reliable mutual insurance society, rapidly gaining in membership and we commend it to our readers' notice.

A. H. Kimball has re-purchased his electrical supply business from F. E. Bowker, to whom he sold it some three years ago on account of ill health and pressure of other business. The stock will be removed to the new office of the Gas and Electric Light company about April 10th and a complete line of supplies will be carried.

Levy's great American band will visit this city Monday April 20. Mlle. Stella Costa the celebrated and beautiful Belgian soprano accompanies the band. For a hardworking company this ranks among the first giving 14 performances a week. On April 19 they perform in Lynn in the afternoon and in Boston in the evening; April 20, Clinton and Fitchburg, April 21, Chelsea and Salem.

The committee in charge of the Scotch concert arrangements have arranged with Prof. Lambeth to give a few selections on the organ presented by Dr. Sidney to the new Baptist church. As Prof. Lambeth is considered one of the finest organists in Great Britain a great treat is in store for lovers of music. The organ is now in the ware rooms of B. L. Rich & Co. The London Musical *World* in speaking of Prof. Lambeth says. Mr. H. A. Lambeth played two solos on the grand organ, showing both his mastery over the instrument and its great compass and power.

Rev. G. H. Emerson, editor of *The Christian Leader* will speak at both services at the Universalist church tomorrow. In the evening he will speak specially to members of the Chapin club on the life and character of Dr. Chapin.

The storm king put in an appearance Thursday night and by Friday morning had things pretty generally his own way. The appearance of the landscape Friday would have been far more appropriate for February than for April.

We desire to call the attention of our readers to the advertisements which are found in the present issue. The institutions advertised are all worthy of the support of our readers, and we bespeak for them the hearty support of all.

All persons interested in cycling in general are requested to meet at Ferdinand & Austin's store at 7.30 p. m., Monday, for the purpose of forming a new cycling club or of putting the old one into active operation. All cyclists over 18 years of age are invited to attend.

Miss Lulu Bugby of Boston, niece of Mrs. L. H. Pratt of this city, was said to be the belle of the Fool's Carnival, Wednesday evening. She was elegantly dressed and was quite a centre of attraction. There were quite a number of ladies very charmingly dressed.

GEO. W. WRIGHT 360 PRINTING SUPPLIES MAIN ST. FITCHBURG, MASS.

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Home-made Mince Meat, 10 cts. a can; Canned Peas, 10 cts. a can; Canned Corn, 10 cts. a can; Canned Tomatoes, 10 cts. a can and all Canned Goods at very Low Prices. Crystal Table Jelly assorted flavors; *Fresh* Potato Chips; Fancy Crackers in great variety, Thorn Medicine Co. Extracts; Home Rule Oil Can, best Oil Can in the market.

A full line of Choice Groceries at Lowest Prices.

PERLEY HOLMES.

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

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FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY

C. H. DOTEN, - 224 & 226 Main St.

SPRING MILLINERY OPENING.

This is our 10th anniversary in the Millinery business in Fitchburg, and we are commemorating it, by opening the *largest* and *finest* line of Millinery goods ever offered to the ladies of Fitchburg and vicinity. While in New York last week, we bought more than $1,500 worth of choice goods, in this line which added to the large stock that we constantly carry, gives an unusual opportunity for selection. All the desirable shapes in Fancy and Plain Straws, in the new shades of baige and leather colors. Black and White Leghorn Flats direct from the importer in six different grades including 5 doz., of the finest ever shown in town, at prices that you can *afford to buy them.* Flowers in great variety from *first hands* and at *low prices* quality considered. Tips and Plumes all prices. New ribbons, all colors in changeable, shaded and figured. Silks, Velvets, Crapes, Nuns-veiling, Laces in great variety of colors, gilt and silver from 25 cents to $2. per yard. Our line of *ready trimmed Hats and Bonnets* including some very handsome patterns, from New York, is well worth your inspection, and we *cordially* invite you even though you may not wish to buy now:

Very Respectfully

Ici on parle Francaise. C. H. DOTEN.

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

Many dramatic companies did not play last week on account of its being Holy Week.

The Kendals took $200,000 out of "the states" last season and will take more this season.

Now the papers announce that Edwin Booth will have to retire from the stage broken down.

Rose Coghlan will shortly produce a new play written by her brother, Charles Coghlan, called "The Gray mare."

Joe Jefferson, the actor, has purchased Gibbs' Neck, a promontory on Buzzards' bay, opposite the Monument Club land.

A bill has been introduced in the Pennsylvania Legislature to prohibit the appearance of females on the stage in tights.

Lydia Thompson was born in London, February 19th, 1836, and began her professional career in the ballet of Her Majesty's theatre, in 1852.

A. P. Burbank, having found the dramatic stage less remmerative than he had hoped for, will return to lecturing, having arranged to fill a four week's tour in conjunction with Bill Nye.

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

"New Lamps for Old" at the Boston museum has not received the praise from the Boston press that "Sunlight and Shadow" did, but the public like it and the public is the great "I am" to be considered. The piece is very good and will not be withdrawn until the dear public give a warning note that they have had enough. The play is a advertised as "a whimsical satire" and Jerome K. Jerome is responsible for it.

George Thatcher's minstrels have been at the Boston theatre, this week, and have met with a most flattering reception. Several evenings during the week they received a perfect oration. Commencing on Monday "A Midnight Bell" will be presented. This piece has also received very flattering comments on previous occassions.

Cleveland's minstrels have been the bill at the Park theatre. While not drawing the crowds the late comic opera did, the house has been well patronized. Next week Frank Daniels in "Little Puck" is advertised, and the mention of Frank's name is sufficient to guarantee a performance of exceptional merit.

"The Still Alarm," a melo-drama of the vice punished and virtue rewarned type, has been the bill at the Globe theatre. Next week this will be withdrawn in favor of Beau Brummell. Richard Mansfield will, of course, assume the title role. He is said to make a "real" hit in this piece. If you happen to be in "the city" next week pay your respects to "Beau."

"The Senator" has been sufficient to fill the Hollis street theatre every evening this week and will doubtless do so next. The great part of this play is the acting of Mr. Crane who throws into the piece an artistic element that would almost make it a drawing card if all the rest of the company were sticks. Such is not the case, however, and the play is nightly greeted with crowded houses.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Monday evening, Nellie McHenry and her company gave us a shock of Chain lightning. The burlesque lightning has quite a different effect on the system to that experienced after a shock of the genuine article and instead of shocking a gathering into silence or insensibility it arouses uproarious mirth and applause. Like the majority of mirth provoking plays a thin plot runs through the piece, but the main object appears to be to amuse and judging from the appearance of the audience, the performers were successful Monday evening.

Wednesday evening a large audience witnessed the performance of "Jim the Penman" by Palmer's Madison Square company. The piece is too well known to need a discription and on this occasion was admirably performed by a strong company.

Monday evening "The Hustler," a farcical play, will hold the boards. This is what the Providence *Critic* says of it: "The Hustler" is one of the newest, brightest, wittiest and merriest of farcical plays, as the programmes claim for it, and it has pleased the audiences at Keith's gaiety Opera House as well, if not better than any entertainment that has been given there this season. It has much in it that is decidedly novel, and about as clever a company to bring out its strong points as could be well brought together. The two shining lights are John Kernell and Dan Mason, both of whom have long been popular with Providence audiences. The former has few equals as the representative of a jolly Irishman, and the latter need't take a back seat to anybody in the role of a "Dutchman."

Friday evening, our old friend Charles T. Ellis, the German dialect comedian will visit us and give his favorite piece "Casper, the Yodler." The play has lost none of its popularity, the scenery is realistic, stage settings and costumes new, bright and appropriate, and the expectations of all present are realized and everyone seems to enjoy the entertainment thoroughly. Mr. Ellis is an actor of rare ability, possessing a marvelous voice, clear and sweet, and a perfect German dialect.

OPERA HOUSE.

MONDAY, APRIL 6.

THE HUSTLER.

FRIDAY APRIL 10.

CHAS. T. ELLIS

IN

THE YODLER.

FOR LUMBER

Call at yard of

C. A. PRIEST LUMBER CO.

45 Rollstone Street.

Complete stock of all grades constantly on hand. Skilled workmen in every department. Best of facilities for manufacturing.

If you want to SAVE money, give us a call.

TOWN TALK READERS.

ADVERTISE your Business, Dances, Concerts, Entertainments, &c., &c., on the Fitchburg Illuminating Advertising Canvas at Railroad Park, and learn the results. For further information call at the office, 11 Water street, Fitchburg, Mass.

W. F. LAWRENCE, Prop'r.

Open evenings. Call and see it operate.

I went to see "The Drummer Boy" and was very much pleased with the play. I feel sure that what I shall say in this paragraph will hit some of my friends pretty hard, but I think all fair minded persons will agree that what I say is true and that some change ought to be made. Each evening of the performance there was a continual tramping down the aisles after the curtain had gone up and while the performance was in progress. This was very annoying to those who went in time to see the play commence and I heard quite a number complain in no measured terms about it. But had they not a right to do so? Like the others they had paid to see the performance and a large number went to *enjoy* this pretty drama. They went in good time and took their seats before the curtain went up, but for fully 30 minutes there was a constant tramp down the centre and middle aisles, and a constant getting up and changing of position to allow the late comers to take their places, which interfered with the pleasure, comfort and convenience of the audience and almost completely drowned the voices of the performers. Then again the dear ladies, that is quite a number of them seemed to have picked out their largest hats and when two or three sat together those behind had a terrible time dodging from one side to the other to get a glimpse of the stage and the actors. Oh, ladies, if you only knew how the men behind you do growl when two, three or four of you sit together and wear those delightful big hats, you would not, I am sure, continue to make them guilty of so much profanity.

But there is another thing connected with city hall performances and other public gatherings I wish to allude to at this time. City hall first. Would it not be a great improvement if matting were laid down the aisles so that when late comers do come in the remainder of the audience would not be disturbed to the same extent as at present. Now, either heavy shoes, light shoes or squeaky shoes make a noise that can be heard all over the hall, and to those who are interested in the entertainment it is far from pleasant. If it causes a little more trouble and expense to put down a strip of matting charge a little more for the use, of the hall, a dollar or two at the very most would cover the additional expense and no one would "kick" at that. If the managers at this place of amusement and at the other would make it an important rule that the curtain *must* go up at 8 o'clock sharp and that after an entertainment has commenced those who come in late must remain standing at the rear until the curtain falls again, a very few performances would see a great change in the attendance at commencing time. I am not afraid to predict that there would be larger audiences if this course were adopted, for now it is nothing uncommon to hear people say, "Oh, I don't care to go it is so late when the performance is over." The average entertainment does not consume much over two hours and if the people could rely on getting out at 10.20 or at the latest 10.30 p. m. many would go who now stay away. That is certainly late enough. The G. A. R. boys deserve credit for beginning just about the appointed hour.

I understand that complaints are loud about loungers around the American House corners and one or two other places. One gentleman writes me specially about the American House, and desires me to speak strongly of the Day and Blossom street corners. This is about what he says: "Evenings, particularly Sundays, the number of men who congregate around the entrance to the hotel and Day street corner is surprising and their conduct is often offensive to ladies. Quite recently on passing this corner I saw a crowd of men around there smoking, laughing and spitting around in a most disagreeable manner, and a lady in front of me had her dress spit upon by a young follow who did not even attempt to apologize for his carelessness. The sidewalk around this place is sometimes spotted all over like a bar-room floor and I know many ladies who almost dread passing the place. I do not refer to those who stand on the edge of the sidewalks watching the illuminated advertising sheet, but to the squads of men who hang around smoking and spitting." Others have spoken of this before. Saturdays it is hard to help a crush and even other evenings when many persons are out it is hard to keep a way open. There ought to be something done, however, about those who stand in groups smoking as complained of above.

"I suppose you think the liquor business is about cleaned out, don't you," said a down town man to me the other day. "No," I answered, "I don't think so, but I do think things are quiet and the liquor sellers proper are not doing much in the business, if any. I do not expect to see it cleaned out in one year." "It cannot be done in one year or in two or three," he answered. "If the same administration could hold over for five years or more undisturbed, I believe the liquor traffic could be cleaned out and the town made so dry that nobody's head would swim with liquor. But when one year it is 'No' and next year it is 'Yes' there is no more chance of stopping the business than there is of raking the moon out of a pond." I agreed that it might be done under those circumstances providing that the mayor and aldermen were all the time taking active steps to repress it. But what is the use talking, the majority of our citizens do not want it cleaned out entirely. What is wanted apparently is that it be kept under control and that the appearances are respectable. It is no use denying it, some of our most esteemed and valued citizens are license men, some of our active church members use liquors and some of our best physicians prescribe it. I do not mean to imply that those just mentioned use it to a considerable extent or immoderately, but why deny it? Make the best regulations the law will allow and keep it as well under bounds as it is possible and the majority of the people will be satisfied.

ROES PAVEN.

WE OFFER

This week, a crate of Anthony Shaw & Son's Iron-Stone China

DINNER SETS

Of 112 pieces, in blue and brown, at the low price of $10.00 per set. This is an unusual bargain. Any Iron-Stone China bearing the stamp of Anthony Shaw & Son

IS A GUARANTEE

that the quality of ware is first-class. We will show these Sets with pleasure.

COLEMAN & DRURY,
138 MAIN STREET.

FAMILY WASHINGS
50 CTS. A BASKETFUL,
AT THE
CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO,
229 MAIN STREET.

Come in and See

MY NEW LINE OF

WALL PAPERS,

MOULDINGS,

Window Shades, &c.

Window Shades made and hung to order.

GEO. Z. PAGE

359 MAIN STREET.

COAL!

LACKAWANNA STOVE AND CHESTNUT,
$7.00.
LACKAWANNA EGG AND BROKEN,
$6.75.
LACKAWANNA PEA,
$5.50.
FRANKLIN STOVE AND EGG,
$8.50.
FRANKLIN CHESTNUT,
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25 CENTS

Less than above for

SPOT CASH

When Coal is ordered.

ORDERS SOLICITED FOR IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE DELIVERY.

C. L. FAIRBANKS,

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HORTON'S BAKERY,

306 Main St., - Fitchburg.

NEAR POST-OFFICE.

Bread, cake and pastry fresh every day.

A full assortment of plain, fancy and ornamented cake always on hand.

TRY OUR CREAM BREAD.

The best materials procurable used in the manufacture of all our goods.

D. G. HORTON.

PEN AND PENCIL SKETCHES

Last week's sketches were meant to deseirbe Harold B. Eaton and James F. Styles.

On Monday I paid a visit to the electric light station and was shown all over the plant by Superintendent Kimball. It is well worth a visit and will perhaps interest some of the readers of TOWN TALK. On the ground floor are the boilers and engines. In the boiler room are three 100 horse power boilers, two of which are used at one time. The boilers were made by D. M. Dillon. The engine room is a model of neatness and presents quite an imposing appearance. There are two engines, the new Putnam of 300 horse power but only half in use at present, it being a double engine, and the Fitchburg Steam Engine company's engine formerly used at the old plant. The engines are so arranged that one or both can be run at the same time. In this room also is a Locke automatic damper regulator and a patent arrangement of shafting and pulleys called the Hill clutch. This is a very ingenious arrangement of shafting and pulleys made by the Hill clutch company of Cleveland, O., which enables the engineer to stop or start any or all the dynamos at will from the dynamo room above. The clutch consists of three iron bands or clutches which revolve with the shaft and are operated by means of a shaft and wrench or lever, and when put in operation clutch the pulley firmly and carry it around. The arrangement for oiling the machinery is also ingenious. In the dynamo room above is a tank filled with oil, this by means of pipes is carried to the room below and over all parts of the machinery needing oiling. The oil is also carried away by means of pipes to a filter in the basement, there cleared of its impurities and is there pumped into the tank in the dynamo room and used again. Running all through the station is about a mile of Clark's insulated wire, the best manufactured, but water is always kept ready in case of fire.

In the dynamo room are six dynamos; three L. D., Thompson-Houston, 50 arc light machines, used exclusively for street lights and divided into three circuits of two 33 and one 32 lights each; one K machine of 30 arc lights and one M machine of 15 arc lights both of which are used for the commercial circuit, and a 1000 incandescent light machine which will shortly be changed for a 1300 light machine of the very latest design. At present the station is equipped with 250 horse power and is running 98 street lights, 65 commercial lights and 800 incandescent lights. The full capacity of the station however is 600 horse power, 250 arc and 3500 incandescent lights. The dynamo room is constructed to hold nine dynamos. The switch board is made of slate with a cherry frame and is divided into two parts; one for the arc lights which contain 12 circuits and is so arranged that any combination of lights or machines can be made without lights being discontinued. The other board is for incandescent work and is made for four circuits, but one is all all that is used at present. This board is the work of Mr. Kimball and is one of the finest of its kind.

The building is of brick and is of a very substantial nature. All the modern appliances and improvements are used and the station is certainly a model of the most approved lighting station. One of the best features connected with the whole plant is that the company uses only the best material obtainable thereby reducing the danger of accidents to a minimum and giving the people the best service obtainable. Only competent and reliable servants are employed and the officials plant and results obtained here will compare very favorably with those of any company in the city.

$10,000

LIFE INSURANCE

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TRAVELERS - INSURANCE - CO.

Costs only $133.50 annually.

Inquire of

CHAS. E. KIRBY,

No. 162 Main St., room 2.

NEW ANNUITY POLICY.

TOWN TALK!

FURNITURE!

CASH OR CREDIT.

GATELY & CO.

50 DAY STREET.

TWO BIRDS IN THE NET.

"My dear daughter, you really must drop this penniless fellow, Jack, and marry Mr. Millyuns."

"Oh, I didn't want to marry Jack, NOW, *Papa. But can't I marry him after I have received my divorce and alimony from Mr. Millyuns?"*

INQUISITIVENESS.

HENRY TUDOR.

Henry 2-der was a 1-der,
(His wife was a 2-der, too)
He got on a bender,
Grew mellow and 1-der,
And made a big blunder, too:
He met number 2-der,
And straightway he wooed 'er.
And told number 1-der,
She'd have to go under,
He couldn't af-4-d 'er;
It cost lots to board 'er.
Then he hacked and he hewed 'er,
And took number 2-der!
Now, *wan't* he a 1-der,
The son of a gunder?

PUNISHED

Town Talk
Edited by the Sidewalk Sifter.

ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY BY

WRIGHT & OLDFIELD,

360 Main St., Fitchburg, Mass.

TERMS, IN ADVANCE:

$2.00 per year. Single copies, 5 cents.

Entered at Post-Office as second-class mail matter.

Every failure to receive Town Talk promptly should be at once reported at this office.

All scraps of information concerning persons and events, thankfully received.

APRIL 4, 1891.

To those of our readers who desire to invest a few dollars monthly in some safe and trustworthy institution we would recommend the co-operative banks. A few dollars monthly, say five or ten, after a year or two add up to a very respectable sum and makes a good start towards purchasing a little place for a home. Young people, whose ambition is to own a little home of their own, cannot make a better start toward securing that object in any other way. These banks are the most reliable in existence, and, as all their securities are real estate they always have something reliable to fall back upon.

* * *

The Boston policeman who assaulted Reporter Kingdon has been dismissed from the force. That is right, not because he assaulted a reporter, but because he encroached upon the rights of the citizen. Assaulting a reporter is no greater offence than assaulting any one else but in this case the circumstances were a little aggravated and it is well to take a good case as an example to others who seem to think that an officer's uniform entitles the wearer to violate the laws with impunity. The police force has many unpleasant things to contend with and an officer's life is not a bed of roses, but the facts in the Kingdon case show that the officer went entirely out of his way to illtreat one who was going about his business in a quiet and inoffensive manner. The lesson will probably have a good effect on Boston's police force.

* * *

Two or three years ago a great cry went up that all the farms of New Hampshire were being abandoned and that nearly 500 farms were for sale for a mere song. About 300 of the abandoned farms have now been sold and offers for others are daily received. This is simply an illustration of the power of advertising. As soon as the information was given to the public that bargains in land could be found in our neighboring states people rightly reasoned that their money was as safe and could be made to pay as good interest at our own doors as it could by investing it in Western farms. The experiment is a good one for the state and for the buyers. In a few years more by proper advertising there will hardly be found a single abandoned farm. Every merchant can learn a practical lesson from this, advertise persistently and if you offer what the people want you will catch them every time. The man who advertises gets the business, we know that here in Fitchburg. Look around and you will find that the stores doing all the best business are the advertising stores, those not advertising have a dead or sleepy appearance. It is the same the country over.

Chamberlain,
Huntress & Co.

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CARPETS
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N N
ALL DESIGNS

SPRING OPENING
PRICES LOW
Selection cannot be surpassed
Call and examine

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

GREAT SALE
—OF—
CARPETS.

CARPET DEPT.

SPECIAL.

STRAW MATTINGS!

We are showing an unusually large assortment of these popular floor coverings, and invite comparison of quality and prices.

Special values in

FANCY MATTINGS,

—AT—

20 AND 25 CTS.

And some new and pleasing effects in higher priced goods.

Nichols & Frost.

Sole Agts. for the Butterick Publishing Co.'s Patterns tor this Vicinity.

(Commenced in Vol. II, No. 4. Back numbers on hand.)

THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

In 12 chapters.—Copyright, 1891. All rights reserved by the author.

CHAPTER XI.

IN WHICH MR. FENLOW IS SHOT.

James Warfield knows by the look on the officer's face that he has made an important discovery. He steps forward and touches the constable on the arm.

"You have found a clue?" he questions.

"Well," says Constable Fales, "if I haven't exactly found a clue perhaps I've got something that will do as well."

"Will you be kind enough to explain?"

"It will require quite a little process to do that, Mr. Warfield. But I'll make a beginning. Mr. Barker, here, and I have looked the ground over pretty thoroughly, and we have come to the conclusion that the would-be assassin of your brother did not make his escape from the house at all."

"Then you think he is still hiding in some of the rooms?"

"Such would be the natural inference from his failure to depart," declares the officer while the marks of parenthesis show upon each side of his broad mouth.

James makes a gesture of impatience. It seems to him that this officer is inclined to make light of a serious matter.

"If you have really discovered anything, please state explicitly what it is," he exclaims in a sharp tone.

Mr. Fenlow, who has not once removed his gaze from the face of Fales, at this moment moves in his noiseless manner to the side of James. His head is bent slightly forward; the piercing quality of his eyes becomes doubly intense.

"Mr. Fales!" he exclaims. And the husky tone has gone from his voice and a peculiar penetrating sharpness has taken its place. "If you have anything to say to me, speak out at once."

"Thank you Mr. Fenlow, for that invitation, for it relieves me from the shrinking tendency that naturally afflicts the members of my profession." The constable quickly draws up a chair as he speaks, and adds in a tone of command:

"Will you have the kindness to sit here, Mr. Fenlow?"

"Not unless you will tell me why you wish me to do so," is the low answer.

"I wish it to save you trouble—that is all. And I think you will have the good sense to comply with the request."

Fenlow hesitates a single instant, and then obeys. At the same time Barker notices that the natural pallor of the man's cheeks becomes more pronounced, although his eyes lose none of their defiance. Fales quickly takes a position with one hand on the back of the chair, yet standing so as to partially face the one sitting in it.

"Now," Fales declares, "we can talk in a quiet and sensible way and at the same time come to an understanding without raising our voices to an undue pitch. That is what I like, for I'm not one of your boisterous men, no matter what I'm doing. What I have to say is this: You have yourself assisted in the search of the house, and you know as well as I that there is no one hiding here. You know, too that nobody has escaped from the rooms. In assuming that you observed these things I merely imply that you keep your eyes open, and that you possess ordinary intelligence. A second examination of the premises, with our friend Mr. Barker here, has confirmed the results of the first. And the significance of it all is that we have to look to some inmate of Mr. Warfield's household for further information. In other words, some one of us knows more about the affair than he has disclosed. Now, Mr. Fenlow, as a candid man do you think that the unfortunate man's brother is keeping anything back?"

"I believe he is!" Fenlow exclaims in a tone that is unexpectedly sharp and positive.

James turns quickly but does not speak. The constable indulges his peculiar smile but he, too, maintains silence.

"Yes!" cries Fenlow, in the same sharp tone which is so unlike that which he ordinarily uses.

"What—what do you mean?" James demands.

"I mean that you have a secret and that if you were to tell this man what it is he would question you instead of me. And I mean that you dare not tell him all the truth."

James looks quickly at the face of the officer, who smiles in return and says:

"That's it, gentlemen. I like to have you talk like that, for I'm certain that it will bring out some interesting points. I can never get at anything so long as a man keeps glum as an oyster; but let there be two of them and then have them get warmed into a dispute, and out come the lively points that neither of them would think of speaking of otherwise."

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The Fully Paid Certificates issued by THE GRANITE STATE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION of Manchester, N. H., draw a Guaranteed Annual Dividend of 8 per cent,, payable semi-annually.

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Fenlow bites his lip. He may in that moment have made a resolve to say nothing more; but if he does so, James Warfield causes him to change his mind.

"If I am keeping anything back, that does not signify that it has anything to do with my brother's misfortune."

"Ah!—so it does not, then! I'm glad to be informed on this point, for I really got the impression somehow that the two circumstances *did* have something to do with each other. But I may be mistaken.

The bitterness of Fenlow's irony cannot be mistaken. And it has the effect of disturbing the natural calmness of James. A slight tinge of color flames in his cheeks, and he flings out a hand with an angry gesture as he exclaims:—

"You know, Mr. Fenlow that what you intimate is untrue! I demand that you state plainly what you mean. You must speak plainly if at all."

"Then you give me permission to tell all I know about your affairs?" Fenlow demands.

"You may reveal anything that could be constructed into having a bearing on this case. It is unlikely that I would give my confidence in anything that could criminate me if I were meditating a crime."

"Very well," and Fenlow's eyes have a triumphant gleam in them. "I will not ask to state all I know in order to interest this gentleman in the matter, as I believe a few points will prove sufficient. He appears to me to have a decided keen scent for salient points."

"That's it, Mr. Fenlow," Fales puts in. And the other continues:

"To the facts then. It is nearly a year since this gentleman acted the part of the Good Samaritan, and, finding me with a broken leg, took me in and nursed me back to health; for all of which I believe I have given sufficient proof of being grateful. Had he been an own brother he could not have done more for me, and had we been of the nearest kin we could not have given each other fuller confidence. And I am sorry to say that the confidence thus gained did not increase nor even sustain my respect for him. I discovered that concerning him which I would never have disclosed, except in self-defence, as I do now. I found that he, like many others of whom we would not suspect it, was leading a double life. I found that he was secretly struggling in the meshes of a folly which had already nearly ruined him, and which eventually was to do so. He did not tell me of his trouble at first and when he first spoke of it he did not reveal to what depths it had already dragged him. But in time he came to me for help; and then I demanded to know all, or else I could not grant him the aid that he craved."

Fenlow pauses and Fales hastens to interpose:

"Can't you manage to condense those details a tirtle, Mr. Fales?"

"I want you to know all. It is a matter in which to condense would be to withhold something of importance, and that I will not do if I am to tell anything."

"Very well then, if you can't cut out any word, give the whole by all means. We crave all that has any bearing on the case in hand—do we not, Mr. Barker?"

"Yes sir-ee!" is the prompt response of Mr. Barker, who has not the shadow of a doubt that the constable stands in actual need of his endorsement whenever his opinion is asked for.

"To begin with," Fenlow resumes, "he told me that he was harassed by debt. In that I could only show him the sincerity of my sympathy by offering to help him in a tangible way—not with the advice, merely, which so many are ready to offer, but with the proffer of money sufficient to meet his most pressing obligations. I loaned him one thousand dollars. I asked for no security, and even did not presume to question him concerning his obligations. And at the time he did not volunteer any details."

"He wasn't in much the same mood that you're in just now—eh, Mr. Barker?" is Fales's comment, uttered in an undertone.

"From that hour to this—or rather, from that day to this, he has constantly increased the debt, until today he owes me more than he could hope to pay, unaided. In his desperation he sent for his brother, Edward, to keep the old homestead from passing out of the family name. You must understand that the danger of losing the place is not from the pressure of my claim upon him, for even now I hold no legal claim upon any of his property, trusting wholly to his honor for the payment of the debt. So you will perceive that he has increased his obligations without regard for me or my claims. From this—"

"Hold on a moment!" exclaims Constable Fales, who until this moment, has shown a somewhat languid interest in the story, which has the sound of a grievance. "Instead of going on with this story in your own way, have you any objections to answering my questions? It will save time and then I can get at just what I most wish to know."

"I will answer your questions, but if you fail to ask all I wish to have known I want the privilege of volunteering esential points."

Certainly, Mr. Fenlow."

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT

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"Then go on."

"How much money in all have you loaned to Mr. Warfield?"

"More than three thousand dollars."

"And all without security?"

"Yes."

"When was the last instalment of the loan made?"

"One week ago."

"A few days, only, before the property was advertised for sale."

"It was advertised before the last loan was made."

"Then you were then aware of his situation?"

"Of course."

"And consequently you had reason to think you would never get your pay?

"He was very sanguine of being able to pay me. And I had faith in his word."

"Am I to believe that you had no motive in being so lenient toward him?"

"I had a motive, yes."

"Does that motive come within the scope of your intended revelations?"

"I am willing to state what it was."

"Please do so then."

"I wished to put him under obligations to me."

"For what purpose?"

"I cannot state unless Mr. Warfield goes from the room while I do so."

Constable Fales looks at James, who nods and goes without a word.

"Now you can go on without embarrassment," the officer declares.

"My motive was that I might secure a home for my daughter," is the prompt admission of the eccentric guest.

"Do you mean that you wished Warfield to marry your daughter?"

"That was my motive. And it would have succeeded but for this affair."

"Really, Mr. Fenlow, your motives and the manner of carrying them out surpass in originality anything in that line that has ever come under my notice. But I can't quite see your object, under the circumstances, in desiring your daughter to marry a man who, as you have stated, is in reality on the verge of bankruptcy."

Fenlow's smile of mysterious significance which makes everybody who sees it wonder at its meaning, lights his dark face.

"Now you are asking too much," he declares.

"You mean that if I want to find out all your whys and wherefores I must ask somebody besides you?"

"That is it exactly, Mr. Fales."

"Then we will leave that for further investigation, later, when we have got at a few more facts in relation to this crime. You started out to prove, Mr. Fenlow, that Mr. Warfield might have some connection with the attempted murder of his brother. I don't see what you have proven yet, or that you have given me any reason to change my purpose in regard to you. To save any misapprehension on your part I will declare at once what that purpose is."

Constable Fales has stood with one hand in his pocket, and now he suddenly withdraws it and with it a pair of handcuffs. At the same time he thrusts the other hand into a pocket on the other side. The whole manoeuver is remarkably adroit as though he were an officer of much longer experience than he is supposed to have had.

"I suppose you will wear these, pending a further investigation?" is Fale's mildly spoken inquiry.

Fenlow does not stir. But there is a a sudden flash in his black eyes, and he looks at the officer with a gaze that is fairly penetrating in its power. And with his eyes thus meeting those of the constable, he exclaims:

"Do you intend me to regard myself as under arrest?"

"Exactly, Mr. Fenlow. And as a matter of advice I will add that I am in the habit of doing no parleying when I really say the word. So put up your hands."

"I'll never do it!" cries Fenlow. And he suddenly springs to his feet, and by a sudden feint which is as sudden as it is unexpected, he brings one clenched fist around and strikes a quick blow directly at the face of the officer. The latter is hit and staggers back so quickly that Barker at first thinks that he is seriously hurt. But the next moment he is undeceived, for the constable wheels as suddenly as did his opponent and before Barker's rather slow vision can follow his movements he sees Fales with one hand grasping Fenlow's throat while the other presents a tiny revolver within an inch of the man's nose!

For a single instant they stand thus gazing fixedly into each other's eyes, breathing audibly, their every sense apparently on the alert. One observing them would almost have thought that these two had at sometime met in a similar manner before, for each seems to be prepared for the next movement of the other.

But little noise has been made in the struggle, and James Warfield, who is waiting in the hall hears nothing to lead him to suspect what is going on. Barker remembers what the officer said to him about his muscle, and wonders if he did not then anticipate this encounter; and it occurs to him that Fales may be now waiting for him to take part in the struggle.

"But I ain't going to pitch in unless he says the word!" is Barker's decision; and he waits and watches with his interest growing more intense every instant.

He does not have long to wait. Again it becomes evident that this officer is not the green hand which he is generally supposed to be. For now he speaks and there is not the faintest sign of excitement in his voice, no more in fact than a man might show in the accomplishment of any task upon which he might be engaged in a regular line of duty, be that ever so commonplace.

"Fenlow!" he sharply exclaims, "have a care what you do, for I've waited too long for this moment to give up the reward that belongs to the patient. Up with your hands, and don't make it any harder for both of us than necessary, for this thing has gone too far for me to leave it until it is finished. Once more—up with your hands!"

Still Fenlow does not stir. His gaze does not swerve from the face of his enemy, nor his face betray the least sign of yielding. It almost seems as if he would allow the officer to use the weapon rather than yield. And to look at the countenance of Fales one may see the invincible expression of a man who will not hesitate to carry out the most extreme of measures, if called upon to do so. It seems, indeed like the meeting

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of old and well-matched foes.

"You have made no charge against me," Fenlow utters in a low, intense voice. and I have no call to obey any mans' whim.

"Barker!" cries the officer, "will you step this way?"

Barker promptly complies. He advances with clenched fists, and with an inward consciousness of that ponderous muscle of which he has been apprised by the undoubted judgment of Fales. He confidently believes that he is to be required to assist in "downing" the lithe, defiant-looking man. But to his surprise the officer says. instead:

"Reach to the inside pocket of my coat, and take out the paper that you will find there. I imagine that it will interest this friend of ours."

Barker does as requested, and a decidedly legal-looking document is produced.

"Unfold and read, Mr. Barker," the constable adds: and again the youth complies.

While Barker blunders through the document the countenance of Fenlow becomes ashy pale, although he does not remove his eyes from the face of his enemy. It takes Barker a long time to get through the paper, and when he at last finishes neither of the two men has changed his position. Even Barker, who is by no means proficient in legal phraseology, understands that this is a warrant for somebody's arrest, though the name of the culprit is strange to him. In all his life Barker has never heard of a person named Rosier. And as for Detective Clyde who is the officer mentioned in the document, he is certainly an altogether new individual, so far as Barker's knowledge extends.

But the youth's mind is not long to be clouded by uncertainty. The silence is broken. It is Constable Fales who speaks.

"Now, Mr. Rosier!" he exclaims, "I think we can understand each other fully. It has naturally been a trifle confusing to both of us to address each other by assumed names. It is a sort of deception that is naturally repugnant to persons of our open and guileless characters. And now sa Mr. Nello Rosier, I, as Detective Clyde, once more ask you to hold up your hands!"

The other hesitates and then, without warning, suddenly breaks away from the officer and attempts to reach the door. But now another surprise is sprung upon Barker. For just as it seems as if the one attempting to escape will succeed, it appears that the door is locked, for it does not open, even while the person whom we have known as Fenlow tugs and strains at it with frantic energy. For only a moment does he keep up the useless attempt. Then he turns about and still finds the officer with the revolver pointing at his breast.

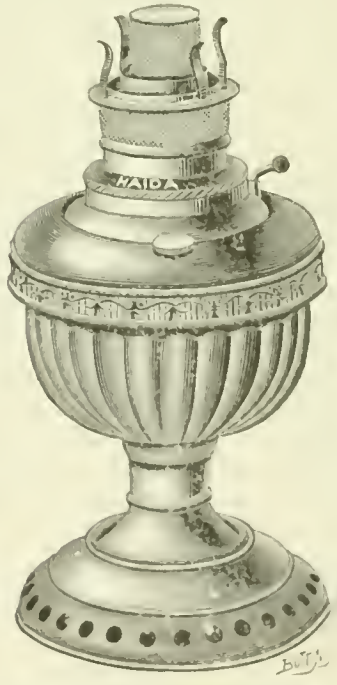
"Up with your hands, and for the last time!" cries the detective.

Like a flash the man's hand flies to a pocket. But he does not withdraw it. There is a sharp report that is almost deafening in the close room, and when Barker gets his wits back so that he can make out what has happened he sees the one who has made such a desperate attempt to escape stagger back against the door. But he does not fall, for the officer springs forward in time to prevent, and to ease the man back upon the lounge with a show of gentleness which is in strange contrast to the action which preceded it.

And now there is once more a hurrying of feet in the house, and even Black Tab in her domain, to say nothing of Miss Pond, is again aroused from her peaceable doze; and again she bristles her hair and manifests every sign of feline displeasure,

Doors open and close; excited voices are heard and they seem to forget that there is one lying near unto death in a room above.

(To be continued.)



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[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

A resident of West Newton, who had paid for doctor's examination and initiation fee, was to be initiated into branch 395 O. I. H., at the last meeting. When about to be initiated, he became timid and left the hall, saying that he would call around again.

A movement is on foot in Lynn, to organize another tribe of the order of Red Men, and the scheme is meeting with marked success. This tribe will make a specialty of taking in a younger class of men than any of the others in Lynn.

F. I. Billings is deputy for the Order of The Homestead, a New Hampshire corporation paying $50 in six months.

There is probably no one thing that adds more to the success of a lodge than the punctual regular attendance of the officers. No brother should accept an office in a lodge, unless he makes up his mind to attend the meetings regularly and discharge the duties thereof to the best of his ability, letting nothing but sickness, absence from the city, or the most urgent business cause him to absent himself from any meeting. How many, many times do we hear an officer of some lodge say: "Well, I don't feel like going to the lodge to-night; I believe I'll stay at home and read, or play some game," or perhaps he may go out calling, or go to a dance, or maybe attend some play at the opera house, instead of performing his duty and keeping the solemn oath that he took when he was installed into that office.—[Southern Lodge Secret.

The Knights of Honor organization is 17 years old and has a membership of 136000. It is costing about $13 per year on $1000 insurance which is very reasonable for an organization of this nature and so old. Last year over 4000 members were added. There is a lodge at Newmarket, N. H., now over 15 years old which has not yet had a death. The lodge here is 13 years old and has lost only 6 members by death.

Lowell has a ladies' branch of the Ancient Order of Foresters.

The Order of the Annual Friend claims a membership of 10,000.

The income of the Knights and Ladies of Honor for 1890 was $852,921.

The Knight Templars regalia, offered for sale in another column may be seen at this office Wednesday next. It is a bargain for any Sir Knight.

At the last meeting of Garnet Lodge, Order of Aegis two applications were received and a claim from Oziel Stockwell for $100 and another from H. J. Lewis for $25 were approved.

The last issue of the Non-Secret Endowment Order *Journal* gives a list of death and disability claims paid during the month ending March 18 and the following appear from this city: Frank E. Alexander, $20; Samuel P. Durant, $40; Chas. A. Babbit, $40. The total sum paid is $1938.37.

IRON HALL.

Supreme Justice Somerby answers some of Commissioner Merrill's sarcastic remarks as follows; Ten years will close December 30, 1890, during which time 147 assessments have been called as follows: 1881, 3; 1882, 12; 1883, 14; 1884, 14; 1885, 16; 1886,15; 1887, 15; 1888, 20; 1889, 20; 1890, 18. Total, 147 assessments in 10 years. "I will now give you my estimate for the necessary assesments for the remaining four years as follows; 1891, 19; '92, 20; '93, 20; '94, 20, a tatal of 225 assessments during the entire fourteen years; 18 assessments per annum for fourteen years, according to my arithmetic would be 252, and the fourteen yaars will hava been compassed on the average of 16 1-14 assessments, giving the order 27 assessments to be used as a surplus in the sixteenth year, which assessment will undoubtedly be sufficient for the liability of of '95, and give us fifteen years' experience with an average of only 18 assessments per annum, and that, too, will carry us beyond the heaviest liability the order has ever assumed."

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Tickets, - 50 Cents.

Tickets for sale at J. E. Thompson's, and Macurda & Sawyer's, on Saturday April 11, at 9 a. m.

Street Parade at noon on the day of the entertainment.

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569 Pairs Ladies' Bright Dongola Button Boots, Opera and Common Sense, sizes 2½ to 7, widths B to E, $1.75.

These Boots cannot be duplicated elsewhere for less than $2.50. Ladies who have been troubled in getting fitted in Boots of this price will find no difficulty in getting fitted at our store.

24 Pairs Men's Patent Leather Lace Shoes, $2.40.

Regular price, $3.50.

Men's Storm King Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.70.

Men's Woonsocket Rubber Boots, First Quality, $2.35.

Men,s Woonsocket Pure Gum Rubber Boots,	$2.75
Ladies' First Quality Rubber Boots,	1.35
Ladies' Plain Croquet Rubbers,	.25
Ladies' Storm Rubbers,	.45
Men's Imt. Sandals, Boston First Quality,	.50

BOSTON SHOE STORE.

182 Main Street, - - Fitchburg, Mass.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That, judging from faces seen on the street, the crop of whiskers is now ripe and is being harvested.

That the Foresters' ball in city hall, this week, was an unprecedented success and reflected great credit on the committee of arrangements.

That the rooms in Dickinson's new block are being gradually taken up and the indications are that in a short time it will be a hive of industry.

That the next great amateur attraction will be the performance by the amateur minstrels at city hall. The fact that John J. Grant is manager argues well for its success.

That a well-known newspaper man created considerable amusement at the opera house Thursday evening, in his efforts to see "Babie" through the wrong end of the opera glasses.

That it is always the unexpected that happens. Just as we had made up our minds that we could safely put on spring clothing and look for April showers we get an old fashioned snow storm.

That the milliners' windows are as gay as a conservatory. That the ladies never tire of looking in and that the men wish the curtains were down. The hit in last week's TOWN TALK is what kills the men.

That the baseball season will open in this city on next Saturday when the Boston Leagues will cross bats with the Fitchburgs. Be prepared boys as the Bostons propose to show the Fitchburg people what league playing is.

That the storm settled the dust rather more effectively than the watering carts could, though we were glad to have them come out a few days ago. Talk about the glorious climate of California, hurrah for the versatile climate of New England.

That Fitchburg people will be treated to the musical event of the season next week when Lambeth's celebrated Scotch chorus will give a grand concert in city hall. The Scotch residents have secured one of the most notable organists in the veteran H. A. Lambeth.

That a business man of not the largest size, yet a youth of quality, dignity and plenty of money of his own, was at the opera house entrance Wednesday evening when a stranger who had been in to see the play, came out to see a man, and said to him, "Here, boy you can have my ticket."

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WEST FITCHBURG, SOUTH FITCHBURG, EAST FITCHBURG AND LEOMINSTER.

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Miss Florence Lambeth,
Prima Donna Soprano,
Late of D'Oyly Carte's Opera Company, London, and "Dorothy" Company, London. Possesses a most beautiful soprano voice, and sings Scotch songs charmingly.

Miss Kate Sherry,
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One of the first Sopranos in Scotland, with a voice which for richness and depth of tone cannot be surpassed.

Miss Elsie Sutherland,
Soprano.

Miss Maggie Bowie,
Scotland's Celebrated Contralto. (Gold Medalist.)

Miss Maud Wilson,
Second Contralto.

Mr. James Moir,
Tenor. (Gold Medalist.)
Has a voice of unusual compass and flexibility, and for the past two years he has been the leading solo tenor in Scotland.

Mr. Chilton Beckett,
Tenor,
One of the most popular Tenors in Glasgow. Certificates from the Society of Arts London, and Andersonian College, Glasgow.

Mr. Vincent Graham,
Basso,
Has a grand voice of exceptional range.

Mr. Andrew Patrick,
Second Basso,
One of the most popular Bassos in Glasgow.

Mr. H. A. Lambeth,
Conductor, Pianist and Organist.

Tickets can be had of the following Committee of Arrangements: David B. Syme, *Chairman*, James Wilson, *Secy.*, William Davison, *Financial Secy.*, Andrew Sterling, *Treas.*, Wm G. Espie, Thomas Downie, James Roberts, Arch. Hall, Geo. Hutchings, Alex. Frew, and on sale at J. E. Thompson's and Macurda & Sawyer's.

Admission, 50. Juveniles, 35

Reserved Seat, 75.

Doors open at 7, concert at 7.45.
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I have on hand six dozen of new wrappers in dark and light, ranging in price from $.50 to $2.00.

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For Ladies and Gentlemen.

First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.

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GOLDEN GRAIL.

THE POOR MAN'S INSURANCE.

$100 IN SIX MONTHS.
$100 OR $200 IN ONE YEAR.
$300 IN TWO YEARS,
OR AT DEATH.

No Medical Examination Required.

The Order of the Golden Grail is beyond its experimental stage. It has become a *pronounced certainty.*

Assessments, $2 and $4. Three new classes of endowment. For full particulars, inquire of

F. I. BILLINGS, 9 Pleasant St.

EUGENE F. STONE.

CARRIAGE PAINTER,

BETWEEN

BROOK AND VINE STS.

Entrance on Vine St

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

BOSTON, April 4, 1891.

Score one for the reporters! Patrolman Benjamin was discharged from the Boston police force, for unseemly conduct, in arresting without cause, one of our ablest and best reporters at a church funeral. Mr. Kingdon's acquittal was no surprise, with such a weak mass of evidence against him. The whole affair was very annoying to a gentleman of his reputation and standing, yet it made for him many new and lasting friends. The entire press of the city stood by him. We news-gathers all get there now, in spite of brass buttons.

We have been going to the dogs all the week. The canine "400" held their annual reception at Mechanics building and it was great fun to see and hear them. Mr. E. B. Sears was unable to exhibit Sir Bedivere, the king of St. Bernards of whom I have written you. The dog has been ill with la grippe. On invitation of Mr. Sears, an hour was passed at his kennels at Wyoming on Sunday last. Visitors are cordially welcomed and it is a treat to see his collection of St. Bernards, without a parallel anywhere in this country. Sir Bedivere is rapidly recovering.

A fad may be a whim, but the fight against arsenic is not a whim, although some paper-hangers call it a "put up job" (wall-paper.)

There is a rumor to the effect that an American has discovered the grave of Aristotle. Don't believe there is anything in it.

I saw a funny thing the other day in the Harvard *Lampoon*. An Irishman said; "Be gorry, this grip gets the funniest hold of a fellow you ever heard on; why I was sick 15 days after I got all well."

Boston has made a gain out of your loss. Mr. L. M. Bartlett the popular tenor is to join our business and musical circles, am told. He will be in good company at the Dudley St. Baptist church, having for his associates, the Boylston quartette consisting of Messrs. W. R. Bateman, F. C. Fairbanks and S. W. Loomis. Mr. Bartlett takes the place of Mr. J. C. Bartlett who goes to Berkeley Temple to assume charge of the music there. Mr. S. W. Loomis is president of the Continental Clothing house and will keep his eye on Mr. Bartlett during business hours. Matters are bound to work harmoniously all round.

Last Sunday fair woman was out in all her Easter regalia, regardless of the Easterly winds that prevailed. The spring styles are very fetching. All the hats are turned up at the back and have small sized flower gardens upon them. The bonnets are semi-toque in style and semi-bonnet in shape, made of lace straw, ribbons and flowers. There is a struggle going on between the lengthened skirt for the street and the proper skirt that swings clear of the pavement. Between absurdity and uncleanness, common sense and neatness. New Yorkers may help the street sweepers, but so far, Boston women, with a few exceptions, have adhered to the sensible walking length. The train is one of the prettiest appendages and most graceful for the house, or for receptions, but it is entirely out of place on the street gown.

Have you read "A New England Nun and other stories" by Mary E. Wilkins? A book full of charmingly told tales worthy your perusal, also of presentation to some friend. Many persons are prejudiced against department stores, thinking they injure the regular dealer. While it may be true, yet an exception can safely be made in regard to books, which in my honest opinion should be brought to prominent and attractive notice in all places possible. None but competent clerks however should be allowed to handle them. Being a chronic book-lover, I want to suggest something to the Fitchburg ladies when you visit Boston. At R. H. Whites you will find a cosy book corner filled with the best in literature and the very latest books on the market, at prices way below the regular dealers. Their buyer thoroughly understands his business and all the attendants in this department are intelligent, courteous and willing. Don't go home without a good book ever.

At the State House a bill has been offered again in regard to the "frightful slaughter," so called, of people walking on the R. R. tracks. It is to be hoped it will pass this year and that all persons found taking pedestrian exercise thusly will be immediately arrested and fined.

At the Lick Observatory last week, a comet was discovered rapidly going out of sight. It was described as with a tail 15 minutes long.

Have you been reading the $40, a year discussion in the Sunday *Globe*? It is quite interesting.

Colonel Higginson says, "there is something extraordinary about the steady way in which women have made their way into higher employments. Just think of it! Two young Boston women have won first and second prizes for best design for the woman's building at the world's fair. Miss Hayden is a first-honor graduate of our Mass. Institute of Technology and is quite young. Miss Howe is also a "Tech" student.

At the theatres.—"New Lamps for Old" was presented for the first time at the Museum last Monday, to a large and appreciative audience. It is rich in humor and is a clever satire. "The Senator," the best play of its kind is at the Hollis. Whatever you do, don't miss that. Mansfield at the Globe.

MARION HOWARD.

If you have tried other Blood Medicines without receiving any benefit

TRY

MALOON'S

SARSAPARILLA

t is scientifically prepared from the very best Honduras Sarsaparilla combined with other well-known Alteratives and Tonics.

It Has Done Others Good, it Will Do You Good.

Per Bottle 75 Cents, only.

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MARTIN WEBBER,

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Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER

Leominster Breezes

Each year seems to increase the floral beauty of Easter. The churches were beautifully decorated, and so were the women. Dress is no longer an indicator of wealth. Mrs.——known to have money galore, appears in a quiet gray cashmere dress with trimmings of black and gold passementerie, while Miss——who commands $4.00 a week and her board, wears brown silk with panels brocaded in green.

The Easter Concert at the Orthodox church drew a large crowd of people. The singing was very fine; notably that of Clarence Kenney and son. The recitations were good, the flowers, spiral japonicas and white azaleas were fit symbols of the great truth underlying this celebration.

Speaking of flowers, Mrs. E. M. Page has a fuchsia five feet and six inches high, having twenty nine blossoms upon it.

The old Solan Carter place is being renovated. Paint, paper and hard work make wonderful changes.

Another drunken fight on West street. Vote for License and have a few more, that is if you believe in helping to promote this sort of thing.

The house-hunter in Fitchburg, and the house-hunter of Leominster, are twin brothers in trouble. Cannot some one donate a home for the friendless?

F. G. Smith's piano shop is to be enlarged. The ground on which the new shop will stand was broken on Monday. The building will be 150 feet long, 50 feet wide, and five stories high; requiring 25 car loads of lumber, or 225,000 feet. Every stick of timber used in the construction of this shop will be as smooth as planing irons can make them. The ground floor is to be of concrete, which leads us to suppose that at some time in the future the pianos will be finished here ready for the wareroom.

F. A. Brown, at the Jewett piano factory has accepted the agency for the Victor bicycle in this town.

Lawyer Carter, lawyer Mayo and ex-Chief of Police C. H. Rhoades, appeared before the judiciary committee at the State House where a hearing was to be given to parties interested in a bill relating, as we supposed, to establishing a District Court at Fitchburg. But which proved to be a wish to extend Fitchburg's jurisdiction over Leominster and other adjoining towns. But Leominster never nods her head in acquiescence when asked to step backward, or take a back seat.

Hon. Charles J. Noyes, speaker of the House of Representatives in 1887 and 1888, was in town this week.

Several of our noted men start to-day for Grand Rivers, Livingstone Co., Ky.

A fair audience greeted Rev. Mr. Newton of Marlboro, who lectured on the temperance question Wednesday night. He is a fine speaker and those who listened to him could but feel that he was right. We do not want a license neither do we want the apothecary shops to mean free rum. The great mistake made last year we hope to see rectified this year.

Who will be our selectmen? The list of names to be voted on is now complete. Read them over, and think well before you vote. Nathan B. Stark, Albert L. Clark, Edward F. Blodgett, Caucus nominees. Howard M. Lane, Alexander S. Paton, George M. Kendall, Independents.

Citizens meeting in the town hall Sunday evening.

LEOM.

GREAT SUCCESS!

We are having with our

ICE-CREAM AND HOME-MADE CANDIES.

Also a choice line of

Domestic and Imported Groceries

At reasonable prices.

E. M. READ.

FITCHBURG

Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

Office: No. 6 Savings Bank Block,

352 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

AMASA NORCROSS, President.
H. G. MORSE, Vice-Pres. and Treas.
EDWARD P. DOWNE, Secretary.

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Amasa Norcross,	Fitchburg.
William A. Macurda,	"
B. F. Wallis,	"
Rodney Wallace,	"
George Jewett,	"
F. F. Woodward,	"
H. G. Morse,	"
Lyman C. Albee,	"
E. P. Downe,	"
Orlando Mason,	Winchendon.
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J. M. Lockey,	Leominster.
Simeon W. A. Stevens,	Gardner.
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Chairs to let for Funerals and other occasions

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211 Main St., - - - FITCHBURG, MASS.

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FINE TAILORS

NEW ARRIVAL OF

Spring and Summer Suits, Overcoats and Trowsering.

ALL THE LATEST AND MOST FASHIONABLE PATTERNS.

An early inspection is invited. Our prices are satisfactory to all who desire good goods.

NO. 357 MAIN ST.

S. E. DICKSON,

Fashionable Hatter and Furnisher.

All the Popular Styles at Right Prices.

FINE LAUNDRY WORK.

373 Main Street. Under Fitchburg Hotel.

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Easter

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—OF—

NECKTIES, HATS, COLLARS,

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Meats and Provisions,

EARLY VEGETABLES

—AND—

POULTRY

—AT—

G. H. RANDEL'S

CENTRAL MARKET.

Orders filled with promptness and despatch. Prices that defy competition for the quality of the goods.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE

KING

Toilet Paper Fixture?

15 cts. buys package and fixture complete.

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BURGESS' DRUG STORE,

CORNER MAIN AND OLIVER STS.

YOU ARE INVITED

to examine our

NEW SPRING STYLES

—IN—

SPRING OVERCOATS,

Suits and Pantaloons,

—ALSO—

The new blocks in Stiff Hats.

We have also a fine assortment of choice styles in Neckties.

Our spring stock is the finest we have ever had the pleasure of showing.

Don't miss seeing our new goods.

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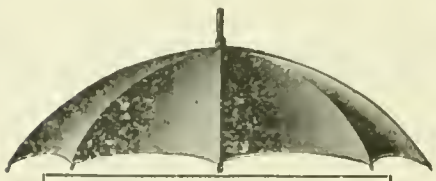
ONE PRICE, SQUARE DEALING

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.



DO YOU realize that you can recover your old umbrella yourself at a small expense? Our patented Detachable Umbrella Cover can be fitted perfectly to any frame in three minutes without sewing. If you send us exact length of the ribs we guarantee the fit, or money refunded.

If you have a good umbrella handle and frame you cannot afford to throw them away. We keep several qualities Cotton Gloria, silk finish, $1.25; Union Serge, $2.00; Fine Union Silk, $3.00

FOR SALE BY

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

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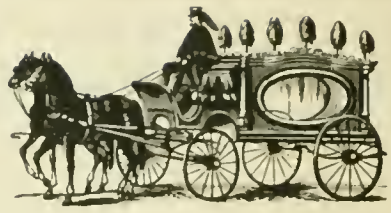


H. A. LeSure. F. D. LeSure.

LeSURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 Day St., Fitchburg, Mass.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

SPRING GOODS!

We are daily receiving Spring Goods at the

Central Shoe Store, 185 Main St.

Full worth for your money is guaranteed on every purchase. Our specialties are the

W. L. Douglas, Nox-Em-All and Quaker Shoes.

All goods warranted as represented.

D. H. PIERCE'S

CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,

185 Main St.

1845. 47th Season. 1891.

JAMES F. STILES.

In order to advertise my store to the many new residents of the city, I will make a discount of

10 per cent. on all cash purchases

for one week, commencing Monday, April 6th, and hope all my old customers, as well as others, will avail themselves of this opportunity to obtain desirable goods at the reduced prices. J. F. STILES.

355 MAIN ST.

A KNIGHT TEMPLAR'S REGALIA FOR SALE.

At a very low price. Exceptional bargain. Inquire at this office.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.
THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.
THE PICTURESQUE ROUTE to St. Albans, St. Johns, Ogdensburg, Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec.

ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, †3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at †7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.40, †8.10 and 11.30 a. m., 12.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at †4.50 p. m.

†Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect. Services at 10.30 a. m., preaching by Rev. Louis G. Wilson of Hopedale, subject "The Light of Life;" Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a.m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by the pastor; 12 m., Bible School; 4 p. m., Swedish service with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, The Gospel service with short sermon by the pastor. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office, Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Let all the People Praise." At 12 m., Sunday School; 7 p. m. service of praise and prayer. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a.m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence, 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor; Sunday School at 12; Young People's Epworth meets at 6 p. m.; prayer meet at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Service at 10.30 a. m., Sermon by the pastor. Sunday school 12 m. Evening services at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m., sermon; Sunday School at 12 m; evening service at 7 p. m. All are cordially invited.

Rollstone Church (Congregational), corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service at 10.30 a. m. sermon by the pastor; 12 m. Sunday School; 7 p. m., series of sermons by the pastor on "Living Questions;" first sermon, topic "Should the Columbian Fair be open on Sunday?" Public cordially invited.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,
Nashua Tribe, I. O. R. M.,
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.
Lady Emma Chapter, O. E. S.

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes. The contest closes May 30, but votes will be accepted up to June 3. A few back numbers on hand.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION

BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

COAL.

ALL GRADES AND SIZES.

REMEMBER,

25 c. per Ton Off

FOR SPOT CASH.

Now is the time to place your winter orders with

Garfield & Proctor Coal Co.,

23 WATER STREET.

A. R. CHILTON

FIRST-CLASS

PROVISIONS.

TELEPHONE 22-3.

7 LAUREL ST.

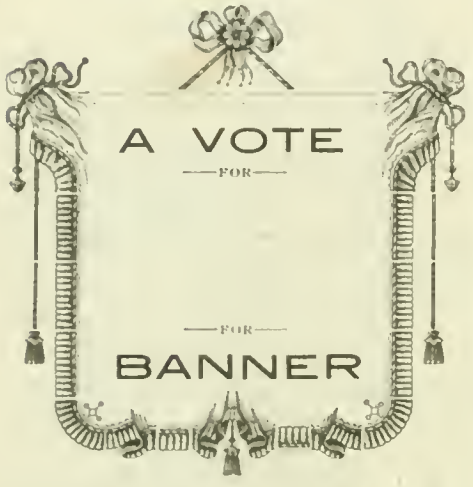
IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.



Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

"The Hustler" at the opera house.

WEDNESDAY.

G. A. R. annual supper.

FRIDAY.

Scotch concert at city hall.

Chas. T. Ellis at the opera house.

HERBERT N. RUGG,

CONFECTIONER,

CATERER AND FANCY BAKER.

181 MAIN STREET.

We have just received a fine line of Cream Bon Bons and Chocolates, from one of the best makers in the country.

AND

Have, at the request of our customers, added a line of Fine Fancy Crackers, to which we would call your attention.

ALSO

Have for sale Potted Plants, Cut Flowers and Flower Seeds, from the Greenhouse of William Liversage.

We cordially invite the public to inspect our stock.

HEADQUARTERS

FOR

PURE

Maple Sugar

and Syrup,

BEST

FLOUR AND BUTTER.

AT

JOSLIN'S O. L. P. C.

FERDINAND & AUSTIN,

Liberal House Furnishers

True Sayings are Appreciated. *Bargains are Appreciated.*

CARPETS. CARPETS.

Such reliable makes as Ivins, Dietz & Magee, Lowell Mfg. Co., Roxbury Carpet Co., and a dozen other reliable makes, in the latest choicest patterns.

Dundee Carpet, only 21½ cts. per yard.

Ten pieces of Ingrain Carpets, exceedingly low prices.

RUGS. RUGS.

Smyrna Rugs, 25 per cent. off list price.

Napier Matting, 20, 30 and 40 cts. per yard.

Oil Cloth, a few pieces for 15 cts. per yard.

CLOCKS. CLOCKS.

Imitation French Marble Clocks, eight-day movements, strike half-hours cathedral gongs, every clock warranted, price $5.

PARLOR SUITS.

In Brocatelles, Silk Plushes, Silk Damask, Mohair Plushes, etc., our own make—equal to the best.

$21.50 Suit, Formerly $35.

You will find us the lowest priced upholsterers. We have a great number of high art pieces of upholstered furniture in the muslin, ready to be covered, a fine line of choice coverings to select from.

CHAMBER SETS.

SOLID ASH CHAMBER SET, $12.

Old English is the latest fad, and is taking well; finely polished set, bevel plate glass, the side grain of the wood attracts one's attention, and the price sells them. A very heavy set at $50.

SIDEBOARDS.

$15, formerly $23. $18, formerly $25. $25, formerly $36.

STOVES AND RANGES.

Largest stock of Stoves in the city. Old stove, first payment; $1 each week.

PARLOR TABLES.

In XVIth Century, Antique and Old English Finish.

SILVER-PLATED WARE.

Large line of Plated Knives, Rogers Bros.' best quadruple plate.

CROCKERY.

A few good DinnerSets for only $6.97.

BABY CARRIAGES.

We have received a choice line of carriages. A good carriage for $2.85.

LAMPS. LAMPS.

Library, Hall and Banquet Lamps in large variety.

REFRIGERATORS.

Sample order received. Prices low. Buy Early.

Easy Terms if desired. Goods Delivered to any Railroad Station in New England.

FERDINAND & AUSTIN, SUCCESSORS TO M. WEBBER, 219 & 221 MAIN ST.

Town Talk

Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

VOLUME II.\
NUMBER 15.}

FITCHBURG, MASS., APRIL 11, 1891.

$2 00 PER YEAR.\
5 CENTS A COPY.

FREE

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CABINET OR BOUDOIR

Photographs

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STUDIO OF J. C. MOULTON

Free to any Customer, by the Following Plan:

To any purchaser of our goods to the value of $50, or more, we give an order for ONE DOZEN CABINET PHOTOGRAPHS, and if the purchase amounts to $100, or more, an order for ONE DOZEN BOUDOIR PHOTOGRAPHS.

The pictures will be Mr. Moulton's best work. Cash sales and sales on time count alike, and the orders are given when the sale is made.

Chamber Sets for $12.50, $13.50, and $14.50, in Solid Ash.

Complete line of House Keeping goods for Cash or on time by our Special System of Credit.

PHILBROOK

HOUSE FURNISHING

COMPANY,

Successors to CHIPMAN & PHILBROOK,

222 MAIN ST.

THE CEDAR STREET BAPTIST CHURCH.

[Engraved expressly for TOWN TALK.]

The new church building on Cedar street will be formally dedicated on Monday next. The building will be quite an ornament to that part of the city. The entrance from Cedar street is through a porch 6½x12, the roof of which is supported by six columns, two on each side at the front of the porch and one on each side next to the front wall of the building. The front entrance is through double sliding doors, which are to be kept open when any meeting is being held in conformity with the law of the state, and there are also "fly" doors. On the right of the hall is a parlor 15x23 feet, furnished in white wood and separated from the audience room by portieres. It is lighted by one large triple window on the front end of the building, with a window on each side of it, and also by two windows on the south side. On the left of the hall stairs ascend to a class room over the parlor, also furnished in white wood, and lighted by a triple circle top window looking toward the west. At the foot of the stairs a door opens into the library room, 4x8 feet, which is fitted with a case for the convenient exchange of books. Under the

stairs leading to the class room above is another stairway leading to the basement. Here is a room 28x38 which can be used for a variety of purposes. Beyond the hall double doors open into the audience room, 29x39 feet and finished in cypress. This room is lighted by four double windows on each side, all of stained glass. The walls and ceilings throughout are rough cast, so as to be frescoed. The audience room is wainscoted to a height of four feet. The floor is birch, all the others being pine. The exterior is tastefully finished with shingled gables, the sides being clapboarded. The tower rises to a height of 55 feet above the underpinning, and the elevated portion of the building makes a conspicuous object in that section of the city. The foundation was laid in a substantial manner by George A. Terrell. The rest of the work was done by contract by J. D. Littlehale, who sub-let the mason work to S. S. & G. A. Lawrence, the plumbing to George Robbins, the slating to William Edwards, the painting to Frank Rivers; the lumber was furnished by M. Davis. The building committee, Messrs. M. W. Cummings, Rev. Frank Rector and John H. Daniels speak in the most flattering terms of Mr. Littlehale's work and that done by the sub-contractors.

FITCHBURG

Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

Office: No. 6 Savings Bank Block,

352 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

AMASA NORCROSS, President.
H. G. MORSE, Vice-Pres. and Treas.
EDWARD P. DOWNE, Secretary.

Board of Directors for 1891.

Amasa Norcross,	Fitchburg.
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WHISPERS AND RUMORS

"This is a strange world," remarked a man to a friend in a car going up street the other evening.

"As to how?" asked his friend.

"Well, fr' instance. When Lilly Clay and her troupe were announced to perform here, some of our prominent citizens objected strenuously to obscene show bills and the like, yet they are daily handling matter in every way as objectionable. In fact they are working, scheming and toiling to acquire it; even place it in the hands of their wives and daughters."

"I don't understand."

"Don't you? Well see here," and the speaker drew from his pocket a national bank note of the ten dollar denomination.

"Talk about the nude in art. Cast your eyes on this female figure in the right hand lower corner. Ever see anything on the bill boards to beat that?"

"Can't say that I have," replied the other.

"Of course you haven't. But you see this picture is legalized by our paternal government, and the others are not. It makes a big difference, morally, if an objectionable picture is placed on our cash, to be handled by our wives and children, doesn't it? On a ten dollar bill it's art; on a bill board it's immorality. It's a queer world we live in."

There is still a good deal of chivalry extant. A New Yorker is starting a club of able-bodied men who are to rush into the elevated or horse cars and secure all available seats, then to rise and give them to the women standing, favoring age before beauty. And a wicked joker says that if the members of the club will inflict a 25 cent fare on all members who break the rules before 1892, the club will have funds enough to complete the Grant monument.

"Papa, where is Atoms?" Father—"Athens, you mean, don't you, my dear?" Inquiring son—"No, Atoms, the place where people go to when the boiler explodes; because it always says they were blown to Atoms."

Quong Lee, a Chinese laundryman, located in East Weymouth, has become insane over losses sustained by him in playing fan tan in the Hub's Chinatown, and has been taken to the Taunton asylum. Quong labored under the strange hallucination that there were half a hundred Chinamen "laying for him" and waiting for an opportunity to assassinate him. Thursday night he packed up his effects and placed himself under the protection of the strong arm of the law.

Now that the banana season is opening up it may be interesting to note what an eminent writer in a late number of the Nineteenth Century has to say about Jamaica bananas: "The value of these bananas as food for workingmen has been recognized in the United States and it is found peculiarly sustaining for those engaged in heavy labor in warm situations, such as blacksmiths, iron founders and operatives in cotton factories." Macy handles Jamaica bananas almost exclusively.

According to a newspaper item the boys and girls of Tecumseh, Kansas, found in the streets after nine o'clock at night unaccompanied by parent or guardian are arrested. TOWN TALK is of the opinion that such a course could be followed with good results in Fitchburg. To the credit of the police it may be said that good work in this direction has in times past been accomplished by sending home young fry who were loitering in the streets at night.

Stock Larger and Better Than Ever Before.

$10,000

Worth of new Spring Goods now coming in.

A SPECIALTY

Recently purchased from one of the best houses in the country.

An immense pile of Business Suits which we propose to sell at the uniform price of

$10 PER SUIT.

This line includes Fine Worsted, All Wool Cassimeres in different shades; All Wool Cheviots in Sack Suits, Frock Suits and Cutaways in all the latest designs; all to be sold at $10 per Suit.

Many of these would be cheap at $15 but they all go in at $10 per Suit.

We have also every grade of Dress Suits at most reasonable prices.

Whatever you read, whatever you see, don't forget this.

☞ That H. A. Goodrich & Co. will not be undersold.

☞ That the Goods they offer are the best in the market.

☞ That they guarantee satisfaction every time.

H. A. Goodrich & Co.,

Wholesale and Retail Clothiers, Hatters, and Furriers.

GOSSIP AND CHIT-CHAT.

There is a language of umbrellas, as of flowers. For instance, place your umbrella in a rack and it will indicate that it will change owners. To open it quickly in the street means that somebody's eye is going to be put out, to shut it, that a hat or two is going to be knocked off. An umbrella carried over a woman, the man getting nothing but the drippings of the rain, indicates courtship. When the man has the umbrella and the woman the drippings it indicates marriage. To punch your umbrella and then open it means "I dislike you." To swing your umbrella over your head signifies "I am making a nuisance of myself." To trail your umbrella along the foot-path means that the man behind you is thirsting for your blood. To carry it at right angles under your arm, signifies that an eye is to be lost by the man who follows you. To open an umbrella quickly, it is said, will frighten a mad bull. To put a cotton umbrella by the side of a silk one signifies "exchange is no robbery." To purchase an umbrella means "I am not smart but honest." To lend an umbrella itdicates "I am a fool." To return an umbrella means—well, never mind what it means, nobody does it! To carry an umbrella just high enough to tear out men's eyes and knock off men's hats signifies "I am a woman." To press an umbrella on your friend, saying "Oh! take it; I had much rather you would than not!" signifies lying. To give a friend half of your umbrella means that both of you will get wet. To carry it from home in the morning means "It will clear off."—[Cricket.

Rev. Dr Howard Crosby, who died at his New York home two weeks ago has done more to purify morals and politics in New York city than any man of the time. He was a noted scholar, a model pastor, a splended writer, but above all a humanitarian. His political judgment was extremely sound. Many times he has been the objects of the attacks of rank prohibitionists because he advocated the sale of beer for a limited time on Sunday. The custom of so many people ought, he thought, to be considered, and restraint, he said, was more practical than prohibition. In instituting his reforms the haunts of vice, he went directly to them and personally set things on a sound basis. Many other reformers are doing the same now, but he was one of the first to practice it, and that, too, while fulfiling the duties that the ordinary man considers sufficiently burdensome. New York can ill-afford to lose him, for he was possessed of the key to reform and to do service for his fellow men, as are very few whose purpose is equally good,

The Captain—"Colonel Waxem will be banquetted after his wedding to-night, and I am to respond to the toast, "None but the brave deserve the fair What the dence shall I say?"

The Major—"I hardly know how to advise you. After you have seen the bride you'll have to turn your speech into an argument to prove either that Waxem isn't brave or that he isnt getting his deserts."—[Kate Field's Washington.

A tender-hearted little girl in Valley Falls, one day last summer came in from the woods and showed a face covered with mosquito bites. "Why did you not drive them away?" said her mother. "They would not go," said the child. "Why did you not kill them?"——"It would not be right," was the answer. "But I have seen you kill them at home," urged the surprised mother. "Yes, mamma," argued the child firmly, if they come into my house and bite me, I kill them. But if I go into the woods, that is their house and I have no right to kill them."

BLACK CHEVIOT
FROCK and SACK SUITS
Are popular and selling fast at
FARNSWORTH BROS.
LATEST STYLES.
LOWEST PRICES.
146 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG.

A. R. CHILTON
FIRST-CLASS
PROVISIONS.
TELEPHONE 22-3.
7 LAUREL ST.

NICHOLS & FROST.
PERFUMERY.
L. H. MYERS, the Perfumery King,
will be at our store
TO-DAY.

We give our patrons an opportunity to purchase at a special price for To-Day only,
LEON H. MYER'S CELEBRATED PERFUMES.

Mr. Myer is the best known manufacturer of Perfumery in this country. He is present in person at this sale and will ALLOW THE LADIES TO TEST, and he will explain to them wherein his goods are superior to all others. The sweetest odors from spraying atomizers will permeate the air of our establishment TO-DAY.

1-oz. Bottle Triple Extract, Special Price, 19 cents, Regular Price, 35 cents.
2-oz. Bottle Tripe Extract, Special Price, 29 cents, Regular Price, 50 cents.

THE FOLLOWING FLAVORS: WHITE LILAC, NEW MOWN HAY, WHITE ROSE, JOCKEY CLUB, LILY OF THE VALLEY, YLANG YLANG, HELIOTROPE, ROSE, STEPHANOTIS, ORANGE BLOSSOMS, MARIE STUART.

8-oz. Bottle Fragrant Florida Water, Special Price 19 cents, Regular Price 35 cents
12-oz. Bottle Pure Bay Rum, ... Special Price 19 cents, Regular Price 35 cents
2-oz. Bottle Fragrant Tooth Powder, Special Price 11 cents, Regular Price 15 cents
SACHET POWDERS, in envelopes, in every popular odor, Special Price 7 cents, Regular Price 15 cents

Gossip and Chit-Chat.

A young man who lost a nickel remembering the scriptural injunction "search and thou shalt find" commenced walking along the street and gazing earnestly on the sidewalk. He found not only his own five cent piece, but another lying beside it. It only remains to be added this did not occur in Fitchburg.

In Columbia, Mo., the girls attending college have organized an Engagement and Marriage Club. Every time one of them has a gentleman escort to whom she is not engaged she pays 25 cents into the treasury. When a member becomes engaged she pays in $5. When a member gets married the club presents her $100.

The Spanish government has a decisive mode of dealing with patent medicines. No compound is allowed to be sold until it is shown that it really cures the complaints for which it is recommended. If our own government adopted the same sensible course some of the newspapers would not look so much like a patent medicine factory prospectus.

Lots of people who read the daily papers will appreciate the following: "Yes," said Aunt Wisdom, "I cut out every good thing that I see in the papers; but what puzzles me is that the best articles end by mentioning some cure. One of the new literary fads, I suppose."—[Society.

This reminds us of some of the dangers, modern enterprise is subjecting us to. There will have to be a new subject to be delivered from, added to the prayer book. "From the medical story advertisement, Good Lord deliver us."—[Light.

Another novelty has been introduced in New York society. It is a *matinee* club. On Saturday afternoon the ladies attend some theatre in a body. A critic is appointed for the occasion, who, at a meeting of the club the following week, reads a criticism, which is discussed by the members. The Matinee Club has attracted much notice from the critics and managers, who have lately asked to be allowed to attend the meetings, and have had their requests granted. By the way, why not energetic Fitchburgers get up a big theatre party to be followed by a supper or dance, or both? That would indeed be a novelty for a Fitchburg audience.

Worcester *Light* very truly remarks: Fast Day has nearly lost its early significance. When our Pilgrim ancestors bowed in supplication for Heaven's favors and their children continued the day and the exercise, the office meant something. People really fasted. In War Times, there seemed a real spirit of devotion; but latterly the day has done little more than mark the beginning of the Base Ball Season. Connecticut, several years since, merged Fast and Good Friday. Sticklers as we are for the old, it is possible that nothing less than this will secure anything like a proper observance.

Waltham wants $1350 for a liquor license. Lawrence liquor licenses are $1600 for first and fourth combined, $1000 for fourth class wholesale and fifth class brewer's. The Taunton aldermen have decided on the following prices for liquor licenses for the ensuing year: Innholders, $2000; common victuallers, first class, $1300; fourth class, $300.

"It wasn't that he neglected to give me his seat," said one young lady to another in a street car, the other day, "but he held up a newspaper in front of me with a big advertisement on it, and all I could see were the words: 'That tired feeling.' I tell you it made me frightfully tired."

If you have tried other Blood Medicines without receiving any benefit

TRY

MALOON'S

SARSAPARILLA

it is scientifically prepared from the very best Honduras Sarsaparilla combined with other well-known Alteratives and Tonics.

It Has Done Others Good, it Will Do You Good.

Per Bottle 75 Cents, only.

T. S. MALOON & CO.,

THE DRUGGISTS

174 Main St., Fitchburg.

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

ARE SHOWING

YOUNG MEN'S OVERCOATS AND SUITS,

BOYS' SUITS AND TOPCOATS,

CHILDREN'S SUITS.

So much depends on the quality of the goods you use, that in making your purchases it is well to consider the QUESTION:

WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO BUY?

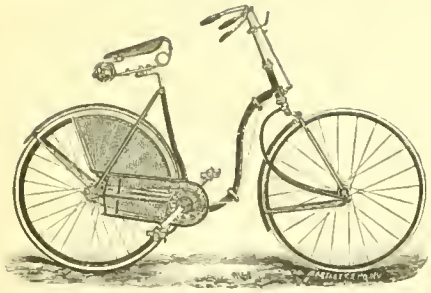
YOU WILL FIND

W. F. LOVERING & CO.

ONE PRICE

CLOTHIERS, HATTERS & FURNISHERS,

THE CORRECT CORNER.



You Must Ride a Bicycle if you want to Stand Striaghter, Hit Harder, Look Better, Feel Better and Work Better.

Your First Day with the Victor Cushing Tire will be a Red Letter Day.

BUY THE BEST!

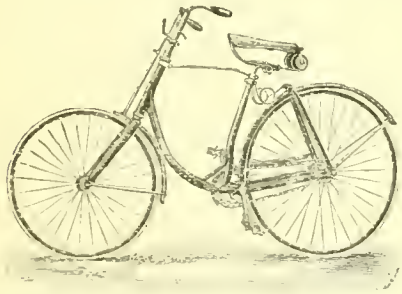
BUY A VICTOR.

WITH CUSHION TIRE.

EASY TERMS IF DESIRED.

F. A. BROWN, AGT.,
WITH JEWETT PIANO CO., LEOMINSTER.

C. W. ANDERSON,
26 PLEASANT ST., FITCHBURG.



AMERICAN RAMBLER

We guarantee this machine and *warrant* it for one year. *Terms easy.*

EXAMINE IT IN OUR WINDOW.

A. B. LAWRENCE & CO.

216 MAIN STREET.

THE GIANTESS.

The only wheels at medium prices combining all the improvements of the day. Ball Bearings all over, including head. Spring Fork, Spring Frame, Etc.

CASH OR INSTALMENTS.

ALLEN & SPINNEY, AGENTS,
133 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG.

The Somerville Cycle Club opened the season with a run to Chesnut Hill reservoir near there, Fast day.

The declared value of cycles and cycle material exported to the United States from Birmingham, England, alone, amounted, during a single quarter of last year, to over $72,000.

The English police are so rigid in the enforcement of the lamp ordinance that each week the cycle papers post some such warning as this: "Lamps must be lighted to-night at 6.15; Saturday next, at 7.11."

A prominent lady rider of Buffalo, Miss Price rode last season over 3,000 miles, mainly on country roads. On three different occasions in less than twelve hours she made 63 miles. Mrs. Denver is another prominent rider of Buffalo's two hundred wheelwomen.

By joining the League I got, in addition to the general benefits common to all wheelmen some special benefits, for instance: A very good road or route book of great use in touring, the use of the League Hotel and Consular Systems, and a general introduction to a host of good fellows who are my fellow-members of the League. A wheelman ought to be willing and glad to join the L. A. W. for what it has done even if he himself never got a particle of further benefit from it.—Dr. George E. Blackham, Dunkirk, N. Y.

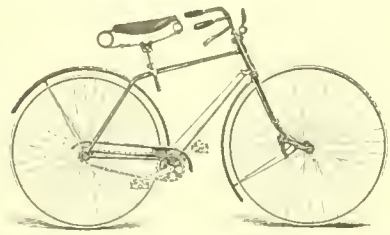
The residents of Northampton street are amused over the antics of a young lady bicycle rider who leaves her metal steed up in the woods, accepts the escort of a well known young man for a buggy ride, returns, mounts her bicycle and returns to the city just the same as if there was no other mode of conveyance than a bicycle. —[Holyoke paper.

Monday evening about 20 wheelmen met at Ferdinand & Austin's store and discussed the advisability of reorganizing the old bicycle club or of forming a new one. After several wheelmen had talked the matter over it was deemed advisable to adjourn the meeting for one week when those interested will again meet at the same place and a club will be formed. This seems to be the best thing to do. There are probably some 50 or 60 wheelmen in this city now and they can, if disposed, organize a good club.

R. H. Grant has accepted the agency for the Kenwood cycle and one of the wheels has been on exhibition in I. C. Wright & Co.'s window during the past week. The machine is a very fine and strong one, fitted with ball bearings and other late improvements. It is a $135 wheel and commands a good market.

Bicyclists find the roads very good for wheeling.—[Taunton Gazette.

IT'S A COLUMBIA.
IT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.



Cushion or Solid Tires, Stiff or Spring Forks.

CASH OR INSTALLMENTS.

S. J. FRANCIS, Agent.

In Union there is strength.
The only practical Spring Frame.

THE WARWICK PERFECTION CYCLES.

Adopted by the United States Government for the mail service.

SOLID CUSHION OR PNEUMATIC TIRES.

Second-hand safeties cheap; 35 different models to select from.

Also, a full line of sundries.

Call and see us before purchasing elsewhere.

BOWKER & HOLLAND,

162 MAIN STREET.

TOWN TATTLE.

[The public is cordially invited to contribute articles of general interest news, gossip, personals, notices of entertainments gatherings, parties and receptions, announcements of meetings and anything regarding the social side of the city's doings.]

A rather expressive sign may be seen on Main street. One large sign reads Plymouth Rock Pants company and directly under it iron, steel axles and springs. Pants of that make surely ought to wear well.

A Newburyport man who has in times past had a liquor license and who would like one this year, but has been told that he will not get one, says that he proposes to be present at the next meeting of the board of aldermen or represented by counsel. "I want a license," he says, "for which I am willing to pay $2,500. If the board are after money I am willing to do this: I will personally take out the entire thirteen licenses, paying $2,500 for each, or $32,500 total. This money I will pay in spot cash to the board, and I will make a written agreement to run the thirteen saloons in first-class style, and, better than all, in strict compliance with the law. The prices charged in Newburyport for a license is $2000.

The aldermen say we will make a loan and pave Main street, the councilmen say Oh no, gentlemen wait till we get our license money and then we can do it. In the meantime Main street will continue to be a standing disgrace to the city. Quite true other work remains to be done and some of it will be done first probably. The Main street matter was taken first because public sentiment seemed to justify the course; the aldermen thought they were taking the right course and doing what the majority of the people would approve, if they were wrong it is a pity.

Rightly or wrongly the impression has gone abroad that an attempt has been made to force the aldermen into showing what they intended to do in the matter of granting licenses. The aldermen have not seen fit to make their views public, but it is safe to say that the course pursued has not tended to change their views. There will be ample facilities in the city after May 1 for getting a glass of beer or even a morning cocktail, but the city will not be supplied with 22 licensed saloons in addition to the unlicensed ones carrying on business until discovered.

The Russell orchestra with 11 pieces will assist the amateur minstrels Wednesday evening next, and a chorus of 20 voices will assist the soloists. The mistake of the the previous entertainments has been taken to heart and this year the performance will be given in very little over two hours. The second part will contain some pleasing specialties and the after piece, written specially for this occasion, is unique. Tickets go on sale this morning and will probably meet with a ready sale. The fact that John J. Grant has undertaken the management assures the public of a first class entertainment. Don't fail to see our burnt cork artists.

The fire, Wednesday night, did not penetrate the Evening *Mail* Office, but it might almost as well have done so. The water damaged the stock and plant very seriously and it will be some days before the office and machinery will be in proper working order. The editors and staff went to work with praiseworthy promptitude and issued the paper as usual. We have every sympathy for the *Mail* in its unfortunate predicament.

A rumor has been started that a syndicate has been formed to get control of the water power of the Nashua river between this city and Westminster. The rumor appears to have gained circulation from a statement made by a Fitchburg man that the water power at Wyman's dam would furnish a splendid power for a big electric plant to supply this city with electric motors to be used for supplying power to small concerns. There is a big water power there, but it would seem that the Electric Light company ought to be able to supply power to small concerns if needed. Surely the company can do it as well and as cheap as a new company could do it.

The following is the program for the dedication of the new Baptist church, Monday.

AFTERNOON, 3.

1. Organ Prelude and Voluntary.
2. Scripture and Prayer
3. Hymn.
4. Brief historical sketch and report of building committee
5. Address. C. M. Bowers D. D. Subject; "Interesting Matters in the Churches of the Wachusett Association"
6. Hymn.
7. Address. Rev. W. H. Eaton. Subject; "Chapel Building"
8. Congratulatory Remarks
   Adjourn

EVENING, 7 30

1. Voluntary and Anthem.
2. Scripture and Invocation
3. Statement of plans and Hymn
4. Address. Rev. B. D. Marshall D. D. Subject; "The Relation of Material Equipment of Spiritual Growth"
5. Hymn or Selection.
6. Address. Prof. A. H. Evans. Subject; "The Relation of Spiritual Growth to Material Prosperity."
7. Prayer of Dedication. Rev. George W. Gardner
8. Hymn. "Zion Stands with Hills Surrounded."
9. Benediction.

Rev. O. D. Thomas of Brockton will conduct a series of evangelistic meetings previous to the organization of the church.

Special Notice!

A. L. Williams & Co.

Expect a large assortment

—OF—

Chocolate Goods, Bonbons, Etc.

—FOR—

SATURDAY.

PRICES VERY LOW.

A. L. WILLIAMS & CO.,

153 & 378 Main St.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

WE ARE

HEADQUARTERS

FOR THIS PART

OF THE EARTH,

—FOR—

FINE CLOTHING.

Albee, Lyons & Co.

GREAT SUCCESS!

We are having with our

ICE-CREAM AND HOME-MADE CANDIES.

Also a choice line of

Domestic and Imported Groceries

At reasonable prices.

E. M. READ.

Jottings By the Way.

Nichols & Frost have a very fine display of perfumery in one window and a grand millinery display in the other.

The Sons of St George will observe St George's day, April 23, with a supper and entertainment in G. A. R. hall.

A very interesting letter from Washington which reached us today too late for use in this issue will be given next week.

Our advertisers have quite a number of interesting bargains to offer this week. Cast your eye over them and see if this is not true.

A stream of water from one of the eave troughs in front of the American house makes the sidewalk very disagreeable. A little repair would be appreciated by pedestrians.

Have you got an insurance policy on your household effects and stock in trade? If not, get one, you do not know how soon fire may visit you. You will find life and fire insurance companies represented in these columns.

This is about the season for the quacks to return. Keep your eyes open and you will see their enticing notices, but at the same time conclude that you are not sick.

E. B. Macy will give an address to the Merchants' Association at the next meeting on "Foreign Fruits." Members are reminded that a meeting will be held on Wednesday next.

Mrs. I. O. Monroe of 21 Burnap street has a fuchsia that beats the one spoken of by our Leominster correspondent, last week. Mrs. Monroe's is 6 feet high and is covered with buds just coming into bloom.

Mr. Cummings is about to make extensive improvements at the American House and when completed Landlord Cole will commence refurnishing a large portion of the hotel. New rooms will be added and the house will be equipped in first class style.

A rumor says that a Fitchburg man talked of starting a temperance bar room to be run like any other bar with the exception of the drinks, and picked out as the best stand the basement under W. F. Lovering & Co.'s store in Dickinson's new block. The same rumor says the idea has been abandoned because the rent asked for the basement is $50 per month.

The change of the weather makes those who own cottages at Whalom cast their thoughts in that direction. A few new cottages will be built there this year, but it is very doubtful if the hotel, talked of last year by Boston parties, will be built. A few cottage lots have been sold, but the hotel site is still in the market.

Kimball & Co. are just two years old today, as merchants of this city. During the past two years the firm has established a good business and the second anniversary will be celebrated by offering goods in every department at reduced prices The firm is well pleased with their experience and intend to take further steps to keep their present large patronage.

Nichols & Frost's store will be thronged with ladies today all anxious to inspect the different samples of perfumery.

It is now Washacum Lake company and John W. Ogden is vice president and manager. The company will commence work at an early date and will make extensive alterations and improvements.

The Amateur Minstrels have got out a pretty eight page paper. It contains pictures of seven of the principal artists in the troupe.

OFFICE TELEPHONE, 116-12.

RESIDENCE TELEPHONE, 27-4.

A. H. KIMBALL,

ELECTRIC BELLS AND SPEAKING TUBES.

GAS LIGHTING, ETC.

WATCHMEN'S CLOCKS.

ELECTRIC

MEDICAL BATTERIES.

ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

Bells, Batteries, Wire, Push Buttons, Etc.

ELECTRIC LIGHT WIRING AND REPAIRS.

316 MAIN ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

GREEN-ROOM RUMORS.

"The Blue and the Gray" has been shelved perhaps for ever.

John J. McNally is to write a new play for Annie Pixley.

The latest aggregation of nonsense is entitled "A Milk Shake."

J. M. Hill thinks of reviving the old farce "All the Rage," next year.

Rhea's new play "Judith" will shortly be tried for the first time at Pittsfield.

Thos. E. Shea and company fill a week's engagement here commencing September 21.

"My Aunt Bridget" was sold at auction a few days ago to R. B. Monroe for $5,000.

Frank Harvey has written a new melodrama for Kate Claxton which she will soon produce.

Plinlimmon, Emmet's big and valuable St. Bernard dog, has recently undergone a surgical operation.

Atkins Lawrence is about to play Jack Diamond, the role Fred Bryton has made prominent in "Forgiven."

Thos. E. Shea, well known in this city, has bought a new sensational comedy drama called "The Red Light."

"The Stowaway" was a great card at the Worcester theatre, Fast day afternoon, and 200 persons were unable to gain admission.

Lizzie Daly, not Lizzie Derious Daly, is to start next season in a revised version of "Upside Down." Perhaps it will be "Downside Up."

Philip Garnier, the former leading man of Sarah Bernhardt, has arrived in this country and joined her company. Before next October Bernhardt will undoubtedly be Mme. Garnier.

J. H. Lester, manager of "An Irishman's Love" company, was arrested in Syracuse recently for allowing Dot Clarendon, a seven-year-old, to appear in the cast. He got off with a small fine and a reprimand.

AT THE OPERA HOUSE.

Friday last week Primrose & West's Minstrels had a poor house in consequence of the storm. The entertainment was a good one and under ordinary circumstances would have drawn a big audience. The local jokes were supplied, or at least the materials for them, by a down town newspaper man.

Monday evening the much talked of "Hustler" put in an appearance. "The Hustler" is like a score of other farces, a mixture of senseless and silly stuff calculated to make people laugh from its very absurdity. A big audience attended and the laughter and applause proved that they enjoyed the fun.

On Monday "The Wife," Frohman's great Lyceum success, will be here. The company brings its own scenery and properties. The piece is considered one of the dramatic events of the season. The San Francisco *Report* says of it: "Few comedies are richer in an entertaining sense. There is serious interest for those who incline in that direction—comedy for those who like fun, and sweet sadness for those who perfer disappointed love. The cast is very strong and were pleasantly welcomed.

Wednesday evening, "The Fatmen's Club" will again visit us. This company visited this city about a year ago and many of us saw the aspirant for club honors go through the trying ordeal of initiation. We witnessed his progress from the time he left home to the time he found himself in the chamber of horrors and laughed at his misfortunes in company with many others. Ladies whose husbands spend their evenings at the lodge should attend and get a few pointers.

Next Saturday the great attraction "Hands Across the Sea" will visit us for the second time. When here before the audience was the largest of the season extra chairs being required and the orchestra was put under the stage. The piece had a very successful run in Boston and made almost as big a hit as "The Soudan."

BOSTON ATTRACTIONS.

At the Boston theatre on Monday a benefit was given to Mr. McGlennon, the theatre's genial press agent. Hoyt's masterpiece "A Midnight Bell" has chimed this week and has charmed with its chimes. The play will run one week longer after which "The Soudan" will be revived. If it meets with anything like the success of its former presentation it is booked for another long run.

Senator Crane still holds forth at the Hollis street theatre and is drawing large and delighted audiences nightly. "The Senator" will run one more week. A party of Fitchburg gentlemen who recently visited the play speak of it in the most flattering terms.

Richard Mansfield in Beau Brummell at the Globe theatre has been favored with very flattering success. Mr. Mansfield makes a captivating Beau and does his part well, assisted by a well balanced company. This play runs only one week and is followed by "Prince Karl."

"New Lamps for Old" the laughing success at the Museum seems to be one of the hits of the season. The piece is a caricature on the marriage question and causes shouts of laughter. "The Open Gate" is used as a curtain riser. With the present large audiences and favorable comments from the press the piece has an unlimited run.

OPERA HOUSE.

MONDAY, APRIL 13.

The Wife.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15.

THE FAT MEN'S CLUB.

SATURDAY APRIL 18.

Hands Across the Sea.

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EMBARRASSMENT OF RICHES.

MR. W. C. CUTHBERT, returning from the club (2:30 a. m.)

I wonder w-which one of t those kid lamp-posts I had better l-lean against?

BESSIE: *Oh! Uncle Josh, you just ought to see the cunning little red baby the doctor bought for mama last night.*

UNCLE JOSH: *Wal, I declar; what was it Bessie, little boy or girl?*

BESSIE: *No, Uncle Josh, it's just baby.*

"Can you write?"

"*Can* I!"

"Are you able to speak English?"

"Humph!"

"Can you walk Spanish?"

"What's that?"

"Were any of your ancestors ever hanged for crime?"

"No, indeed!"

"Do you like olives?"

"Not very well."

"What is your sex?"

"Well, if the census man can't see I'm a female when he looks at me, Drusilla Siggins will not tell him!"

"Are you married?"

"No; thank goodness."

"Have you ever had an offer?"

"*Have* I?" Well, I should say so."

"Who was the first man to propose to you?"

"Let me see. I think it was Sam Brown."

"Did he ever display any other symptom of insanity?"

"Such impudence!"

"Did he marry some one else?"

"Yes; she that was Susan Berkshire."

"Of how many children is he now the father?"

"Such impertinent questions!"

"Why did you refuse him?"

"Well, I don't think that's any of the Government's business."

"How soon after did you begin to regret it?"

"Why, those questions are just awful."

"So they are, and the worst of it is, if you don't answer them they'll clap you in jail and fine you $500. Do you swear?"

"Of course not."

"Use tobacco in any form?"

"Such ridiculous questions!"

"Take sugar and cream in your tea or drink it straight?"

"Sugar and cream."

"How old are you?"

"What's that?"

"How old are you?"

"Tom, they *don't* ask that?"

"O, yes, they do. Here it is in print."

"And you've got to answer it or go to jail and pay $500?"

"That's about the size of it."

"Tom, when do these pirates commence to spring their catechism?"

"On the 2d of June."

"Well, Tom, on the last day of May your Aunt Drue leaves this country to stay all summer with her relatives in Canada. She's been wanting to see them for a long time, anyhow. You needn't read any more."

—*Wm. H. Siviter.*

IT FILLS A LONG-FELT WANT.

SNODGRASS: I have just completed the greatest invention of the age.

SNIVELY: What is it?

SNODGRASS: An anti-profanity fountain pen.

The Park Company has done nobly. Just think what a difference the expenditure of $5,000 or $6,000 will make in the grounds at East Fitchburg. A new grand stand, a new judge's stand, new stables and other improvements will make the place worthy of a name Some weeks ago when TOWN TALK had an interview with the secretary of Worcester North Society, those who wanted to see an improvement made scarcely dared to hope that the company would lay out so much money, but the unexpected happened and soon work will commence. I would suggest that work be pushed along in such a way that the *new* park may be publicly dedicated on July 4th. Make it a red letter day. Have some trotting in the morning, bring out some of those fast horses and let them show themselves. Let those who have a doubt about their powers show themselves. Many of those who spend the afternoon and evening at Washacum will go in the morning, and in the afternoon attractions can be arranged for entertaining all those who do not go there. It is a few years since we had a big celebration on the Fourth, let's have one this year that will surpass anything heretofore seen. This is just the time to do it, and the Park Company ought to be able to do it in the best possible manner. Horse trotting is a drawing feature, there can be no question about it, add to it other out-door competitive sports such as foot races, sack races, bicycle races, a band contest between the Fitchburg band and other crack bands, in short anything and everything that will make our great summer holiday a big attraction to our own citizens and those around us. No need to paint the town red, but just make things hum on the Fourth The park will be worth something when all the improvements are made, take that opportunity to introduce the improvements to the public and to earn a dollar. The Park Company has decided to take the bull by the horns, (more power to the company and a little more to the bull) why not while engaged in the struggle try to throw the bull over the fence.

Talking about churches recently reminds me of the following. About a week ago the following telegram appeared in the daily papers, dated at Springfield, O. "All the Protestant and Catholic churches in this city united in holding union religious meetings Sunday in the opera house. A priest preached to a large mixed congregation clad in citizens' habiliments. So also did the Protestant preachers. The Protestants took the initiatory in the movement." What occurs to me is this. Every year now we have in this city what we call a *union* service on Fast day and on Thanksgiving day. At these services all the Protestant ministers take part holding the services first in one church then in another. I do not know whether the Catholic ministers have ever been invited to join in the services or not, but would it not be a grand scheme to have a *real* union service if possible. If *all* the ministers in town have *not* been invited, invite them. If possible have the service first in the Protestant churches and then in the Catholic church and vice-versa, and if that is not considered most advisable use city hall or the opera house. What they can do in Springfield we can do in Fitchburg. Such a service is likely to be well attended by all classes.

This reminds me of another matter connected with churches, a matter that has previously been spoken of. I do not wish to suggest any harsh measures, but merely to point out what is again becoming disagreeable and a little annoying. Perhaps it is all right for a lady to go around to houses and places of business asking the people if they love the Lord, though with most persons the first impulse is to inform the questioner that it is none of her business, but there is a feeling of respect shown to a woman and the impertinent question is usually quietly and evasively answered. The lady in question ought to confine her exhortations to the meetings she conducts. But I started out to speak of the practice of our Salvation Army friends monopolizing the corner of Main and Prichard streets on Saturday evenings for meeting purposes. I have no ill-will against the Army, the members have just the same right as any other body, but their exercises at this corner do no special good. I doubt if the Army can show one clear and sincere conversion from any meeting held there, but the store keepers who pay big rents around there have probably said swear words several times when crowds have blocked the street mainly to see these persons foolishly expose themselves. I know many good people otherwise friendly to the army, who consider that when the little band has paraded Main street making all the noise possible for a handful of men and women to make, a quiet adjournment to their hall is only what they ought to make. The singing may not be very good, but the public will cheerfully put up with it if the enthusiastic worshipers will only conduct their prayer meetings in their hall, as all the other religious bodies do, instead of giving their experiences on the streets. This is only a raven's hint, but my Army friends will find they will gainfriends in the long run by taking the hint.

Spring is here. I know it is because not only are the ravens looking up new quarters, but I have noticed about half a dozen jobbers' teams carrying your household goods from one place to another. It is rather odd, but there is always a lot of moving in the spring and I sometimes wonder what is the cause and what sort of places the movers leave and what sort of houses they move into. The women have got a "corner" on household matters and when they are not satisfied there is little peace for the men folks. Usually however, the women try to make the home as inviting as possible, the tendency being to continually make it more attractive, and in some instances this is the cause of moving. Furniture and other chattels accumulate so rapidly that the rooms cannot contain them and "we need a bigger house." Then when spring comes we have to move. At such times the men are not exactly the "lords of creation," the women are the boss, but the men are very handy to have around. I suspect that not many really enjoy moving except perhaps it is the jobbers and all they care about it is the money they make out of the business—ah: there goes another load with a sad eyed man riding on top holding a large mirror. Poor fellow.

ROES PAVEN.

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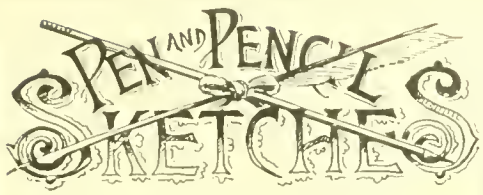

In a certain handsome building in our city, a certain gentleman occupies his time, whose appearance is in perfect keeping with the position which he holds. It is an accepted fact that he is a model official, and he has held his place so many years that he has become a fixture in it. Nearly everybody belonging to the intelligent class has had business with him, and must have been impressed by his knowledge of the treasures committed to his care, as well as by his courteous attention. No. 64 is a person of medium height and build, with light complexion, hair and beard. His countenance and manners have a cultivated, genial air, bespeaking the man of refined tastes—a connoisseur. Our subject has seen considerable of the world, having travelled and gained a large fund of information, and is well versed in practical affairs. Years ago, he was a telegraph operator, before he was appointed to the position he now fills, and he has seen the evolution of a public institution from narrow quarters to a location befitting its importance and character. People of limited means are there permitted to enjoy what would otherwise be practically denied to them. He is often met in society and is a member of two or three social and fraternal institutions, notably the Masons and the Odd Fellows. Who is No. 64?

No. 65 is a young man of very respectable proportions, being tall, well built and good looking. He goes about his work in a very quiet way and seems anxious to attract as little attention as possible. Sometimes you will see him on Main street watching a number of men who are engaged in very lofty positions or perhaps you will find him doing his best to lighten some one's darkness. Perhaps no other man in the city has such a light record as this sketch. For several years he has spent his time diffusing light and if he is not stopped he seems in a fair way to illuminate every nook and corner of the city in one way or another. One good thing ought to be said of him, he is a good workman and in all he undertakes he tries to do his work in such a way that the subtle fluid he handles will not play any ugly pranks with the uninitiated. In some places serious accidents have happened from a want of such care, but in this city thanks to No. 65 and his employers no fatalities have occured. If you notice him on the street gazing skywards do not make a mistake and think he is studying astronomy, he is probably locating some defect in his light arrangements with a view of remedying it. He is a Fitchburg boy and born in jail, that is he was born *at* the jail when his father was superintendent of that institution. At one time he was connected with the telephone business and he has, for a young man, had considerable experience in this kind of work.

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Town Talk
Edited by the "Sidewalk Sifter."

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All scraps of information concerning persons and events, thankfully received.

APRIL 11, 1891.

A couple of weeks longer and those who are on the anxious seat about liquor licenses will be relieved of their anxiety. It is understood two or three places are being fitted up in the expectation of obtaining a license, but whether or not they will be granted it is impossible to tell. The number of applicants will probably be about 20 and the number of lucky applications will probably be a dozen. After the matter is settled there will be trouble ahead for those who attempt to sell without license.

***

Did you read Mr. Hall's Fast day sermon? If not you ought to get a copy of Friday's *Sentinel* and read it. It is true it is a little radical, but it contains many good points and suggestions. We know Mr. Hall to be a firm believer in public schools and therefore his criticism is meant for the good of the institution he criticises. Some little changes are no doubt needed. Read the sermon named and you will think so too. If there are weak and defenceless places let us have them strengthened in a manner that will be for the good of the whole people and the whole country, but when doing this we must not let our zeal carry us too far.

***

Can nothing be done to remedy the grade crossing nuisance is a question many people are asking themselves? The number of crossings within the limits of this city make the question a very pertinent one. The waits are often long and annoying, but the railroad officials do not seem able to prevent it. The mayor, engineer or any other person who can find a satisfactory solution for the difficulty is in a fair way to earn fame and ducats. It is high time something was done to alter the present state of things.

***

The raven alludes to the projected improvements at the Fitchburg park and suggests a big Fourth of July celebration there this year. It is now two or three years since we had a "big" time on the Fourth and this seems to be a good opportunity to have another. If the new structures are completed by that date a better time for celebrating the event could not be selected. By all means let us have a big Fourth of July celebration this year.

***

Italy is putting on war paint and some of the daily papers inform us that it is more than probable that she will send her ironclads to reduce New Orleans, New York, Boston and other cities to ruins. Easy now, easy. Italy will hardly go to war with a country like this over four men who have such a record as the following and who were sure enough implicated in the murder for which they were killed: Bagnetto is proven to have been a fugitive murderer from Palermo and a member of the Esposito band of highwaymen. Marchesie was a veteran of Garabaldi's army, but he fled from Palermo while charged with murdering a female. Trahina was also a robber in Sicily. Of Comitez nobody seems to know anything.

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THE WARFIELD HOMESTEAD.

A Romance of an Abandoned Farm in the Nashua Valley.

BY ERNEST A. YOUNG.

In 12 chapters.—Copyright, 1891. All rights reserved by the author.

CHAPTER XII.

Conclusion.

A week passes with fewer startling events at the Warfield homestead than have transpired in the hours of the single night, which are marked by the attempted murder and the arrest of Mr. Fenlow.

For, despite the fact that he has been known to the police of a distant city, and unfavorably, under a different name, he is really Mr. Fenlow still, and he has no real right to be called by that of the Italian which he at one time assumed.

Just how the arrest was finally made no one can relate with more enthusiasm than Barker. For is he not entitled to a share of the glory? And are not the details indelibly impressed on his memory? For, so long as Barker lives, never will he be so flattered in his good opinion of himself as he has been by Constable Fales—or as he may now more properly be called—Detective Clyde.

"After the detective-chap had got Fenlow hand-cuffed so he couldn't move even if he had strength to with a bullet in him from the detective's pistol," says Barker when he relates the details to Miss Pond, "and Mr. Warfield—your Mr. Warfield——rushed in, down come Saadi, white as a sheet, and I thought she was going to faint dead away right side of her father, that was lying there on the lounge where they laid him. But she held up better than I thought she was going to when she first came in. She asked about it all as cool as you please, though her cheeks were white as death all the while. Then when the doctor came in and looked at Fenlow and said there wa'n't no need of handcuffs to keep him quiet, the detective give the girl the key to the things and let her unlock 'em off, just as kind as anything you ever see in your life. And then when the doctor said it wouldn't be worth while to try to take Fenlow away—that the Lord was going to do that for them in the course of a few hours—you oughter seen how the detective flew round to make the man he'd shot as comfortable as he could! You'd thought him and Fenlow was old chums, and that it was going to break his heart to have him die."

"I don't see what the detective wanted to act so much like a fool for after he had shot the man himself!" was the comment of Miss Pond, who but slightly appreciated the subtlest of human motives.

"Landy!" exclaims Barker, "but it was all because he was so mighty smart, and knew his business so well. He didn't want to shoot Fenlow at all and just did it because he couldn't help it at the time. Fenlow would have killed him dead as a doornail if he hadn't shot him just as he did."

"I'm thankful for one thing, and that is that the evil-eyed man didn't get well and that your Mr. Warfield is going to. It most generally works t'other way—the decent one dies while the other gits well."

"I s'pose you know what the detective arrested Fenlow for?" Barker asks. For it seems to him that Miss Pond takes more interest in the non-essentials of the strange case than she does in the more vital points.

"It was for trying to murder your Mr. Warfield, wasn't it?"

"Land, no! Fenlow was an escaped convict and the officers have been trying to get their hands onto him for a good many years. He was mixed up in I don't know how many crimes, and he was a crafty one too. He committed forgery in the first place, and then he shot an officer that tried to take him, and got away. Then, after a year or two, they caught him, and he was convicted and served three out of a ten-year sentence. Then he about killed one of the prison guards and got away. He has been free ever since. But they say that he has been up to some quiet sort of deviltry ever since he has been free."

"Then the girl must be just as bad as he was," says Miss Pond, who will not be satisfied unless some-one of her own sex can be made out as wicked as the other.

"You're mistaken there, Miss Pond," is the indignant retort of Barker.

"What's the reason she isn't, if she has been round helping of him to humbug folks?"

"She didn't know what a scallawag he was, that's the reason. She wasn't brought up by him at all, and she never so much as new that she had a father till since he escaped from prison. He had her taken good care of, and she was brought up as innocent as a lamb. Then when he got out of prison he took his own name and went after Saadi to make a home for him. She supposed by his tell that he had been in the West in a hospital, and that he had lost track of her. What reason had she for distrusting his word? And if she

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had, it ain't likely that she would have betrayed him. She says that he intended to go out of the country, and was getting ready to go when he broke his leg and your Mr. Warfield took him in. This was such a quiet sort of a place that he made up his mind to stay here as long as Mr. Warfield would keep him. That night afore he died he told the detective that he had really set out to live square. But the devil in him was about two sizes too big for him to manage I guess, and kept hauling of him into trouble in spite of all he could do. So, when he found that your Mr. Warfield was in debt up to his eyes, he thought he would get him where he would have to do about as he wanted him to. That's why he kept lending him money, and encouraging of him to get in deeper and deeper, till there was no getting of him out with out more money. His idea was that he was likely to be caught by the officers that he knew were after him, and then his girl would be with out a home and no one to stand by her in time of trouble. He see that your Mr. Warfield wasn't likely to get married unless something uncommon urged him to do it. But if he got into debt to Fenlow so deep that he could never get out any other way, he might be willing to marry Miss Saadi as a sort of compromise. That was Fenlow's plan according to his own story, and I reckon it would have worked if he had lived long enough and hadn't quarrelled with my Mr. Warfield, and tried to stab him to death."

"And so that shameless critter was plannin' and settin' her cap for my Mr. Warfield all the while!" cries Miss Pond, who is more indignant at this suggestion, than at the revelations concerning the escaped convict.

"I tell you, she was as innocent as a lamb so far as her father's plans were concerned. Like enough she thought a good deal of your Mr. Warfield, and does now, but she didn't know what the old man was figgering for, and she don't know yet. Then about her visions that led Edward Warfield to go up stairs that night to solve the mystery, there's something that nobody can explain, for of course she didn't know that it was her father's form that she see, and couldn't make out distinct enough to be sure who it was. And she didn't know that it was her father that secretly gave the money for your Mr, Warfield to pay at the time of the auction, or that it was he that did so many things that puzzled her as much as they did anybody."

"But that ain't telling why Fenlow tried to murder your Mr. Warfield," says Miss Pond, who has become interested in this unique narrative in spite of its failure to implicate Saadi Fenlow in the wicked part of it.

"That's simple enough and you ought to see how it happened from what I've told you already."

"I s'pose Mr. Fenlow thought Edward might get an idea what he was up to."

"That is jest it, Miss Pond. And he had reason to be afeared, for he could see that my Mr. Warfield was too sharp to be humbugged same as your'n was."

This speech comes very near terminating the interview and the permanent friendliness of Miss Pond and Mr. Barker, and would certainly do so but for the latter's forbearance in the word-sparring which ensues. But an armistice is finally declared Mr. Barker proceeds to throw additional light upon the tragical encounter in the room over the diningroom.

"According to Fenlow's confession afore he died," Barker continues," after James and Saadi went out for their stroll Fenlow went up stairs to see what Edward was about. They met in the room where the fight was, and Mr. Warfield told him squarely that he knew that it was him that had been prowling round in his room the night before, and that he was sure enough too that it was him that was furnishing the money for his brother. And I guess that they had a hot time of it before the fight begun. Of course Mr. Warfield didn't think of it coming to that, and probably Fenlow pitched in without much warning. But it looks as if he didn't have it all his own way, though he had the knife and the other hadn't anything to defend himself with.

"That's how the fight come about and we'll have to wait for Mr. Warfield to get so he can tell his side of the story before we can know the rest. One thing that makes it seem not quite so bad, is, that the victim isn't going to die. So the house won't be so likely to be haunted as it would have been if there had been an out and out murder."

"The detective shot Mr. Fenlow and he died, so I don't see but that is jest as bad, so far as the house bein' ha'nted is concerned," declares Miss Pond.

And holding to this belief, she does not think of venturing to open her eyes at night after she has blown out her light; nor does she dare to look behind her when she goes from one room to another in the evening; and when she goes up stairs or down-stairs she imagines that she hears stealthy foot-falls following her own.

And another thing that troubles her is that she cannot wash out the stain of blood on the threshold of the door be-

DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT
DAY LIGHT

LAMP.

JENNISON, THE PLUMBER.

SOLE AGENT

MAGEE MYSTIC.

T J SULLIVAN, Mangr. Sheet Iron Dept.

CHAS. SMITH, Mangr. Plumbing Dept.

twixt the kitchen and dining-room, it matters not how diligently she may wash and scrub. She tries sand soap in vain; she invests precious pennies in new soaps and other compounds that are warranted to remove the most indelible of stains—all in vain. And, worse still, Black Tab will crouch at the threshold and lick her chops by the hour, and glare with her yellow eyes until Miss Pond is so nervous that she hardly dares to stir from her chair until someone comes into the room and so relieves the horrible spell.

It is no wonder under such conditions as these that Miss Pond cannot reconcile herself to stay at the homestead. And when she goes and an aggressive Irish girl comes to take her place, Black Tab takes mortal offense and leaves the house to return no more.

This is the beginning of a disintegration in family relations which does not end here. The breaking-up has begun, and is destined to continue until the last trace of what so short a time before seemed unchangeable is irrevocably changed.

*** *** ***

Saadi does not go so long as she can do aught for the comfort of Edward Warfield.

During the critical period of Edward's confinement in the room where the dreadful struggle took place Saadi shares the night-vigils with James, and while not a word is spoken about the tragic events each knows that they are uppermost in each other's thoughts; and each refrains from any allusions to those events out of motives of delicacy which are wholly spontaneous.

But the time comes when the patient can sit up for an hour at a time; then for two or three hours; and at last he goes to ride, and the death like pallor which has been upon his cheek begins to leave it; and then comes the day when he calls James to him and says, in his abrupt manner:

"I think I am well enough to go home. Is there anything that you wish to say to me before I go? About your affairs, I mean."

"Yes, there is something that must be said to some one very soon," is the brother's reply.

"About your money-matters?"

"Nothing has been done toward a settlement since the—since you were injured."

"And no mysterious presence comes forward now to offer assistance, I presume?" Edward returns with one of his incredulous smiles.

"No. And I expect none. That is not all. I feel that Saadi must be repaid the sums that her father advanced. Under the circumstances I could not expect her to stay here."

"There is one thing for you to do, James," the other declares.

"What do you mean?"

"Why not fall into the trap that Fenlow laid for you? The bait is not so obnoxious as it might be, I am sure."

An indignant flush mantles the cheeks of the other. And Edward understands that he has polluted a holy thing by the lightly worded suggestion.

"Do you take me for a villain?" cries James.

"Not at all," says Edward, in a more serious tone.

"Then why suggest that I should act in such a manner and with such a motive? Saadi would not barter herself for a home, and nothing shows more plainly how incapable her father was of comprehending a pure motive than the deliberateness with which he set about laying a plan for his daughter which she would have spurned had she understood his motive."

"But she knew nothing of it, James, and unless I am greatly mistaken she thinks enough of you to leave all considerations of a home out of her motives altogether."

James begins to pace the room under the greatest excitement that he has shown for a long while.

"Come," Edward continues after a pause. "You can't do any better, and you're in no condition to let fine motives interfere with your convenience. You might go to her, if you thought best, and tell her just how you feel about it and she would no doubt appreciate your frankness, and perhaps consent to do with a minimum allowance of the grand passion in consideration of obtaining a husband who would not marry her under false pretences. It isn't so common a thing—this frank avowal of a motive—as one might think."

James comes to a halt facing his brother. There is an expression upon his face that Edward has never seen there before.

"Are you blind?" he cries, a passionate ring in his voice. "You must be or you would see that the only sacrifice I can make is to refrain from asking her to link her life with mine! I love Saadi Fenlow! I have loved her from the first hour that she came here. I shall love her if she goes away!"

Edward looks grave for a moment, and then makes the characteristic response:

"Then I would overturn heaven and earth, if necessary, to induce her to stay! Why, it would be a pretty notion for you to send her off when she loves you and you would be miserable without her. And yet nothing could more plainly show the condition you are in; for nobody but a natural simpleton or a man in love would do such a silly thing as you were thinking of doing."

There is something in this cold-blooded argument that is tremendously convincing to James. And that very day he goes to seal his fate. But there is nothing unpleasantly portentious in such a seal; and the fate is the same that thousands are daily seeking despite the dark predictions and direful warnings of those who have regretted their own choice.

Edward goes back to his New Hampshire home, and there we may find him still, a white-haired bachelor, attended by Mr. Barker. And Mr. Barker himself lives over in his memory, and talks over with his cronies, the events of that night when he performed such a skilful piece of detective-work at the Warfield Homestead. For, as time passes the part played by Detective Clyde shrinks into insignificance in his memory, while that taken by himself increases correspondingly in importance.

Yet there is no wedding at the Warfield Homestead. The dark stain in the dining room is enough to spoil the appetites of the guests at even a wedding-feast. And, besides, if we are to credit the tales told in

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All losses settled immediately, upon satisfactory proof.

the neighborhood there were many uncanny happenings there, especially after night-fall. There was a propensity on the part of the most perfectly trimmed lamps to pop and splutter after they were lighted. And as for the large clock in the kitchen, no clock-makers art could cure its habit of stopping at or near the eleventh hour of evening; while it had a persistency in striking eleven at all times of the day that was, to say the least, an annoying freak. And the door from the kitchen to the shed would never stay shut, whether bolted or not.

Such are the stories told by those who ought to know more about it than we can know; and if we are to credit any improbable occurence which we have not witnessed with our own eyes—and everybody knows that our own eyes are the only reliable ones ever made—why should we not put faith in the weird tales that have made the Warfield Homestead a deserted one which no one seems inclined to reclaim and live upon?

There is a wedding, however, and a happy one, as weddings go. In the new homestead that is established nothing uncanny ever happens. Saadi never again uses her occult powers, whatever they may be, and nothing can induce her to do so.

Detective Clyde is now in New York. He does many clever things but none more clever than the *rush* by which he followed and fathomed the identity of Fenlow, the escaped convict. He even worked out his engagement as a farm-hand before he returned to the city.

If my readers complain that I have failed to clear up all the mystery of my story, I can only say, that it is a mystery that others more skilled than I have tried to solve without success.

(The end.)

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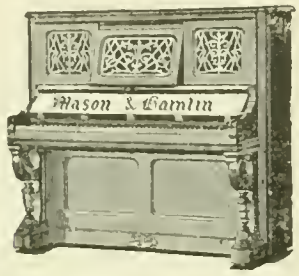

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You cay buy Musical Goods of all descriptions at a less price than any other place in Worcester County,
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PIANOS & ORGANS

From the best makers and on easy terms of payments.
Their facilities for handling goods are unsurpassed, and their *Warerooms* replete with all the latest musical publications and musical goods.
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Tuning and Repairing by experienced workmen.

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The Russell Orchestra,

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ENTIRELY NEW PROGRAM

AT CITY HALL,

Wednesday Ev'ng, April 15.

Tickets, - 50 Cents.

Tickets for sale at J. E. Thompson's, and Macurda & Sawyer's, on Saturday April 11, at 9 a. m.
Street Parade at noon on the day of the entertainment.

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Watches, Clocks and Jewelry repaired

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FINE TAILORS

NEW ARRIVAL OF

Spring and Summer Suits, Overcoats and Trowsering.

ALL THE LATEST AND MOST FASHIONABLE PATTERNS.

An early inspection is invited. Our prices are satisfactory to all who desire good goods.

NO. 357 MAIN ST.

[This part of our paper will be devoted to matters of general interest to secret society members. Secretaries and others are requested to send us anything connected with the society that will interest absent members or others. To insure publication the same week it must reach this office not later than Thursday noon.]

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

The Golden Lion gained a good footing in Amesbury last week.

Philadelphia is said to have 24,185 Odd Fellows and 150 lodges.

The Odd Fellows of Wareham have incorporated to build a $55,000 hall.

The Masonic block and adjoining buildings were burned in Lowell Sunday. Loss $150,000.

The Household Benefit Association of Boston, an order paying $500 in five years, has added a $100 in one year class.

A Court of the A. O. F. has just been organized in Exeter, N. H. It is called Squamscott and has 46 charter members.

The Royal Ark payments for January, February and March are said to foot up to nearly $200,000. Boston has a colored lodge of this Order.

The Order of the Red Cross will shortly organize in this city. This Order pays $100 at the end of one year, $1000 at death and a sick benefit of $10 per week.

The Golden Grail is said to have paid out $400,000 up to date in cancelling matured certificates. It has gained a footing in the South and $20,000 has been paid there within a few weeks.

Judge is giving its attention to insurance as follows: Snively—"I hear that poor Muggins is dead." Snodgrass—"Yes. Life insured?" Snively—"For $5000." Snodgrass—"Oh well, the loss is fully covered."

The Bangor *News*, speaking of alleged fraternal benefit schemes, well says that when some of them are fairly looked at, it suggests a doubt as to whether the American eagle, popularly supposed to be emblematic of a sharp-sighted people, is not really a gull.

King Kalakaua of Hawaiian Islands was connected with several assessment orders among them being the American Legion of Honor. He was a charter member of a Council, was admitted March 28, 1882, and paid in $629. The April assessment includes his name among 90 deaths, and all of which this single call pays.

The Red Men are making active preparations for the grand exemplification of the secret work of the Order to be given about April 29. It is expected that 40 candidates will be secured for the occasion and city hall will be turned into a wigwam.

Alfred F. Chapman, editor and proprietor of the Liberal Free Mason, died suddenly a few days ago at Hotel Glendon, Boston, at the age of 62 years. He had been grand high priest of the Grand R. A. Chapter of Massachusetts and general grand high priest of Grand R. A. Chapter of the United States.

The late Lawrence Barrett had $20,000 life insurance in assessment companies and fraternities. He decided to carry $20,000, more and the applications were made out and were signed by him on Wednesday, before his death. The party who looked after his insurance saw him that day, and the great actor postponed closing the transaction until Saturday. On Friday Barrett was dead.—[Portsmouth Times.

Grand Sire Charles M. Busbee has issued a proclamation calling upon all grand and subordinate lodges to devote the 26th of April, A. D. 1891, (or as the 26th will fall on Sunday, the 25th or the 27th day of April, as may be selected,) the 72d anniversary of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of America, to suitable and appropriate exercises in commemoration of the day, and to public thanksgiving to Almighty God for his manifold blessings vouchsafed to us, as an order and as individuals, during the past year.

Another new six month's Order was organized Wednesday evening. This is Rollstone Lodge, No. 2, Order of the Homestead. The Charter list contains 150 names and the following officers were elected and installed by John Christie, supreme president of the Order, assisted by Peter Kerr, supreme treasurer: Past President, F. I. Billings; president, F. D. Lesure; vice president, A. J. Heslam; chaplain, J. W. Phelps; secretary, John Damon; financial secretary, H. J. Lewis; treasurer, John W. Ogden; marshall, Warren Bowker; warden, Albert C. Lyman; sentinel, F. A. Jackson. A musical program was finely rendered by Mr. Frank Nathan's Banjo and Guitar Club.

The Local Branch of the Iron hall and the Sisterhood Branch united Wednesday evening, in having a genuine good time. An entertainment was given in which the following persons took part: Misses E. Lizzie V. Bartley, Mary F. Conley, May Barden, Eva Spaulding and Messrs. M. F. Mongavan, Fred L. Wheeler, A. S. Belding and B. W. Dinneen. The Fitchburg Mandolin and Guitar Club also gave a number of selections which were warmly applauded. The entertainment was thoroughly enjoyed and the meeting was considered one of the most successful the Branches have yet held.

The Golden Grail now claims 132 commanderies with a membership of 20,000. During the past week Commanderies were instituted in Spencer, North Brookfield, Roxbury and Waterbury, Conn. The members expect that $100 in six months will now cost from $90 to $95 in this Order.

YOU ARE INVITED

to examine our

NEW SPRING STYLES

—IN—

SPRING OVERCOATS,

Suits and Pantaloons,

—ALSO—

The new blocks in Stiff Hats.

We have also a fine assortment of choice styles in Neckties.

Our spring stock is the finest we have ever had the pleasure of showing.

Don't miss seeing our new goods.

LITCHFIELD & STEBBINS,

ONE PRICE, SQUARE DEALING

Clothiers, Hatters and Gent.'s Furnishers,

120 MAIN ST.

Under American House.

SPRING GOODS!

We are daily receiving Spring Goods at the

Central Shoe Store, 185 Main St.

Full worth for your money is guaranteed on every purchase. Our specialties are the

W. L. Douglas,
Nox-Em-All and
Quaker Shoes.

All goods warranted as represented.

D. H. PIERCE'S
CENTRAL · SHOE · STORE,
185 Main St.

1845. 47th Season. 1891.

JAMES F. STILES.

In order to advertise my store to the many new residents of the city, I will make a discount of

10 per cent. on all cash purchases

for one week, commencing Monday, April 6th, and hope all my old customers, as well as others, will avail themselves of this opportunity to obtain desirable goods at the reduced prices. J. F. STILES.

355 MAIN ST.

POSITIVE.
NEGATIVE.

WE ASSUME THE FIRST ATTITUDE, YOU THE OTHER.

NOW WE OVERCOME

YOUR

RESISTANCE

By selling best goods at most favorable prices.

"VOLT"

Into our place, some day, and see.

BOSTON SHOE STORE,

182 MAIN STREET 182

FITCHBURG.

HAVE YOU SEEN THE

KING

Toilet Paper Fixture?

15 cts. buys package and fixture complete.

—AT—

BURGESS' DRUG STORE,

CORNER MAIN AND OLIVER STS.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That base ball will soon be the war cry.

That the Easter bonnet is a thing of beauty even if it is not a joy for ever.

That those who apply for a license to sell the ardent and don't get it will probably do some kicking.

That sugar at 20 pounds for a dollar has a sweet and inviting sound for housekeepers. That some of them hope it will not rise in price before "canning" time comes.

That the fire on Day street, Wednesday evening, afforded both comical and pathetic scenes. Those who lived in the upper stories had anything but a pleasant experience. The *Mail* office was badly affected and the stores underneath also suffered considerably. The Chinaman who runs a laundry in the block got a bad soaking. His face was a picture; at times it had a most sorrowful expression and a minute or two later a most comical one. A gentlman seeing him with a woebegone look remarked in a kind tone "this is a bad one for you, John." "Yah," replied John, with a look that it would puzzle Bret Harte to describe, "too muche washe."

That people are becoming more and more impressed with the importance of having a chemical fire engine. It is only justice to the city government to say that money needed for the purchase of one would be voted if that ended it. But before a chemical can be used here there are other things to be considered, a place for it, horses and driver. Seeing that the city government recognizes the desirability of having this apparatus we may expect ere long to see steps taken towards furnishing the required premises and later the chemical engine itself.

That the Board of Trade and the Merchants' Association can point with pride to see the small losses by fire in this city. In pointing out to firms in quest of a new location the advantages Fitchburg possesses our splendid water service and our excellent fire department are not to be lightly passed over.

That the following quack doctor story is true. A lady residing on Milk street, feeling unwell, went to one who usually advertises big, using a very imposing picture of himself. He usually puts up at a hotel and calls himself a *specialist*, whatever that may be in his case. He promised to cure her for $125. She did not sign an agreement, but evidently he is one of the crowd for he threatened to make her pay the full amount after she had visited him three times and had notified him that she she would come no more. She had paid him $35. Now, as a fair question if these men are what they claim what need is there for this fellow to stay a week or two here, then a week or two in Worcester, then a week or two in a few other towns. Evidently all they care about is getting all the money they can out of any poor foolish person. All this man gave the old lady mentioned was one little bottle of medicine. More about this quack later.

AUCTION.

300

Bunches Bananas

We shall sell from 300 to 500 Bunches Bananas every Saturday evening.

Parties buying during the day will avoid the rush in the evening,

—AT—

MACY'S.

Another chance to get those

17 ct. CHOCOLATES

—ON—

SATURDAY.

E. E. NUTTING, 128 1-2 Main St.

FLOWERS FOR EVERY OCCASION.

ARTISTIC

FLORAL DESIGN WORK,

A SPECIALTY

F. O. WILLARD,

FLORIST,

GROVE ST., Near POST-OFFICE.

Telephone 13-3.

BENJ. H. PERKINS,

RETAILER OF

Ladies' and Gentlemen's

FINE SHOES,

HAND AND MACHINE SEWED.

THE

People's Shoe Store,

349 MAIN STREET,

NEXT DOOR TO CITY HALL.

C. H. DOTEN,

224 & 226 Main St., - Fitchburg.

Winter is departing, and spring is near at hand. *April, May and June of* 1890 was by far the *best* business we ever knew in the *ten years* that we have sold goods in Fitchburg, thanks to the good people of this city.

We hope to make the spring of 1891 better than the last, and if *good goods, good work, with low prices*, will do it, *we shall have it.*

Everybody reads Town Talk from *beginning to the end*, advertisements and all, so we can keep you posted.

We have had more than 35 years experience in the millinery business and think we know something about it. When you come and patronize us, you will think so too.

Respectfully,

C. H. DOTEN.

300 Cans California Apricots, 20 cts. a can.

300 Cans Plums, 22 cts. a can.

300 Cans Maine Sweet Corn, 10 cts. a can

200 Cans Maine Green Peas, 10 cts. a can.

200 Cans Salmon, 15 cts. a can.

800 Cans Good Sardines, 8 cts. a can.

200 Tumblers Currant Jelly, 8 cts. each.

200 Buckets Preserves, 58 cts. each.

W. M. GRAY,

389 MAIN ST., - - FITCHBURG.

LORIN HOSLEY,

BOOK · BINDING · AND · RULING.

Blank Books Made to Order.

Special attention given to the Binding of Magazines and Periodicals of all kinds.

360 Main Street. FITCHBURG, MASS.

AT THE

SOUTH ST. GROCERY,

Home-made Mince Meat, 10 cts. a can; Canned Peas, 10 cts. a can; Canned Corn, 10 cts. a can; Canned Tomatoes, 10 cts. a can and all Canned Goods at very Low Prices. Crystal Table Jelly assorted flavors; *Fresh* Potato Chips; Fancy Crackers in great variety, Thorn Medicine Co. Extracts; Home Rule Oil Can, best Oil Can in the market.

A full line of Choice Groceries at Lowest Prices.

PERLEY HOLMES.

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SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO PLUMBING AND SHEET METAL WORK.

Telephone Connection.

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CONFECTIONER,

CATERER AND FANCY BAKER.

181 MAIN STREET.

We have just received a fine line of Cream Bon Bons and Chocolates, from one of the best makers in the country.

AND

Have, at the request of our customers, added a line of Fine Fancy Crackers, to which we would call your attention.

ALSO

Have for sale Potted Plants, Cut Flowers and Flower Seeds, from the Greenhouse of William Liversage.

We cordially invite the public to inspect our stock.

W. F. LAWRENCE,

FINE ∴ JOB ∴ PRINTER,

11 Water St., Fitchburg, Mass.

WEDDING, SOCIETY AND BALL PRINTING A SPECIALTY

ALBERT B. DAMON,

TEACHER OF FLUTE AND PICCOLO.

37 School St., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Dining Rooms, Etc.

HOTEL WESTMORELAND.

25 TO 29 DAY STREET.

Ladies' and Gents' Dining Rooms. Board by the day or week. Good rooms, polite attention and good service. Everything first-class.

F. W. ALDRICH, Prop'r.

DRURY'S DINING ROOMS.

144 MAIN STREET.

BOARD BY THE DAY OR WEEK.

For Ladies and Gentlemen.

First-class accommodations to permanent and transient guests.

G. E. HAYWARD, Propr.

JUST RECEIVED!

The following latest styles of frizzes, Nadjy, $1.75, Patti, $2.50 and Peola, $3.00. These have the same effect as one's own hair cut and curled. Can guarantee these to be first-class in every respect.

I have on hand six dozen of new wrappers in dark and light, ranging in price from $.50 to $2.00.

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CITY HAIR STORE,

183 Main Street, Up Stairs.

MRS. A. McLANE SAWYER,

H. A. Goodrich, President. E. B. Rockwood, Treasurer. F. C. Currier, Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS

MUTUAL AID SOCIETY,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

A Simple, plain plan of LIFE INSURANCE adapted to the needs of the people. Its 12 years of successful operation has shown that economy in management saves cost to its members.

Persons with small incomes can secure protection in this Society. It is increasing in members—adding since Jan. 1, 1891, 80 new members.

Those who feel the need of insurance protection are invited to investigate and become members.

You ought to know

THAT YOU CAN BUY PURE MILK FOR FOUR CENTS A QUART,

—AT—

The Public Markets,

177 MAIN ST. 374

L. A. Cousins, Prop.

OUR BOSTON LETTER.

Boston, April 11, 1891.

The first event of interest during the week was the silver anniversary of the G. A. R. so widely celebrated throughout the country. Abraham Lincoln Post 11 of Charlestown, with invited guests, including the W. R. C. and Sons of Veterans, filled the Universalist church. Speeches were made by all the surviving Past Commanders, interspersed with singing and reading. Mrs. Mary E. Knowles, gave "The Boys of '61" in a spirited graceful manner. Past Commander William H. Spaulding in a witty speech, referred to a visit to Fitchburg during his term of office, when the boys took possession of the hotel and marched "through Georgia" nearly all night. Some of the old Vets may recall the event, also that Col. Taylor (now of the Governors' staff) prefaced his remarks in a facetious way, about those noisy boys who kept him awake.

A very pleasing thing occurred at the Charles Russell Lowell meeting. Mrs. Emilie L. W. Waterman, President of the W. R. C. 28 presented the Post with a check for $800 the proceeds of their recent fair.

Hon. Benjamin F. Tracy, secretary of the navy, has been paying us a visit since Wednesday.

When you come to the "Hub" you will all notice our little barrel hand-cart, used by the street cleaning department. Don't make the mistake some of our local residents have, in thinking them to be tutti frutti carts. They are painted red, are very useful and rightly called "The Eureka" carts. Grateful citizens are devoutly thankful that Supt. Carter has "found it" (the idea). Boston streets have not been so well cared for for years, and our fame has already gone abroad. The mayor of Brooklyn visited Boston last week to look into our system, so successfully carried out, under the new administration.

The *Traveller* building has under-gone a transformation, noticeable as you enter. Marble stairs and tiled floors have replaced those of "ye ancient days." This building is one of the oldest in the city. The "High Arms" structure has set a good example, for solid interiors

Our compliments to Dr. Caroline Hastings of the Boston school committee. She has issued an order in regard to teachers names which will meet with universal approval. Dr. Hastings claims that the full baptismal name should be used and all abbreviations dropped. For any one to permit herself to be called Hattie, Mamie, Susie, Sallie, Kittie or Maudie is as absurd as if the names of the male teachers were to appear as Johnny, Billy, Tommy, Sammy or Jimmy. These abbreviated names of either sex ought not to flourish outside the nursery and we hope the example will be followed elsewhere.

Boston's long list of imposing buildings is to receive a noteworthy addition this year. The *Youth's Companion's* new home, on Columbus avenue, is progressing rapidly.

Mr. L. M. Bartlett made his first appearance on Sunday last, at the Dudley street church and created a very favorable impression. His fine tenor voice was heard to good advantage.

The physicians at the Mass. General Hospital are very reticent in regard to the lymph patients, but a man has been discovered who is being rapidly cured by the aid of the Koch lymph. He is a Mr. Gaquin residing at 751 Tremont street and his case is remarkable, as he had been pronounced incurable by physicians and at the hospitals before the lymph arrived.

The turnstile at the museum of Fine Arts on Sunday last, showed the attendance to be 2742. As you may know, this museum is open to the public free, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and is a boon to the masses. The building has been enlarged, and new works of art are being constantly added.

Speaking of art, reminds me to call your attention to Williams & Everetts on Boylston street where there is always something to interest you and educate as well. In their gallery is a bronze statue called "The First Flight," taken from Tennyson's poem. The model for the face of this work was the daughter of the Dean of Winchester, and Connie Gilchrist, the actress, sat for the figure.

For the ladies: The new shades in hosery combined with the black, are Peony, Pansy, Henssar, Cleopatra Red, Spanish Yellows and French Grays. The stockings are all two-toned, of opera length (36 inches) and have stockinette tops, thus doing away with the garters. Was shown a full line by the buyer for Gross & Strauss and they are very sensible as well as beautiful. You must say onyx boot now, instead of black feet.

The New England Woman's Press Association gave a very brilliant reception to Mrs. General Custer, on Thursday p. m. at the Parker house. The Governor was present, with his staff in full uniform, also many distinguished guests. Tea followed the reception being gracefully served by well known ladies of the association.

Senator Crane still continues his arguments at the Hollis to packed houses.

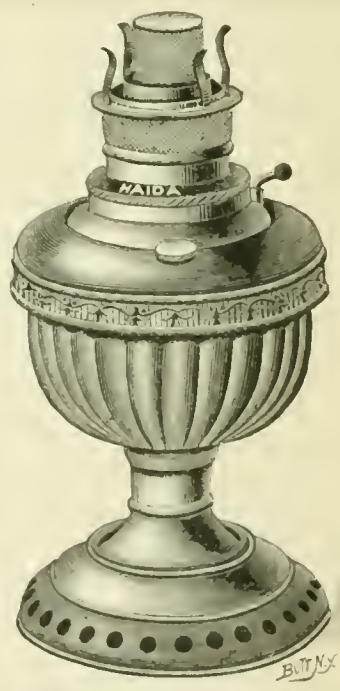
The chief attraction is Mansfield at the Globe. He scored a big success in New York, and it is to be duplicated here. To my thinking, the character of "Beau Brummel" is the best he has ever assumed, the most artistic, and the whole performance rightly deserves the highest praise.

The "Soudan" is coming back to the Boston April 20th. On Sunday evening April 12th Levy's band are to give a grand concert at this theatre.

"New Lamps for Old" will burn brightly for an indefinite period at the Museum.

Someone tells us that Fitchburg will soon be addicted to spinning yarns. The new industry ought to succeed, as Scotch yarns are always reliable.

MARION HOWARD.



HAIDA LAMP.

GET THE BEST.

NICKEL-PLATED.
CENTRAL DRAFT.
PERFECT WICKING DEVICE.
EIGHTY CANDLE POWER.

—LOW PRICE.—

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Atlantic Tea Company,

227 MAIN STREET.

FAMILY WASHINGS

50 CTS. A BASKETFUL,

AT THE

CITY STEAM LAUNDRY CO,

229 MAIN STREET.

SPRING

is with us and we are right in the swim with the greatest collection of new, choice

Spring Merchandise

—FOR—

Men's, Boys' and Children's

WEAR

it has ever been our good fortune to own.

We are strictly one price, and that price we guarantee as low as the lowest.

KIMBALL & CO.

The People's Clothiers, Hatters and Furnishers,

220 MAIN ST.,

FITCHBURG, MASS.

UNDER THE OPERA HOUSE.

Leominster Breezes

The selectmen are A. L. Clark, N. B. Stark and A. S. Paton.

Mr. Lothrop, it is said, will take charge of De Nitt's bible class.

The idea of hiring a hall for the sinner to dispense religion in has been given up.

The selectmen at once reappointed the old board of police for the time being, so we feel safe.

O. J. Putnam is building a "parlor stall" for Harry Abbot's $250 horse that comes from Boston this week.

The Leominster Club will entertain the Clinton Club on Wednesday evening April 15. Both clubs are ready for the battle.

The beautiful *Public* Park, seen in imagination, floated away in thin air, while the old town bell will hereafter hold its tongue.

Wilbur Woodbury is home from Framingham and the old family horse is again seen trotting leisurely towards the Hill farm.

Twenty of the Good Templers went to Clinton last Thursday, and though Clinton is considered a very wet place they returned perfectly dry.

At the Post Office Uncle Sam is having a few new pockets put into his coat. It seems a pity that the rich old gentleman must be so cramped for room.

The Orthodox people had a meeting Tuesday night to see what action they should take in regard to Mr. Meredith's letter of resignation. It was decided not to accept it.

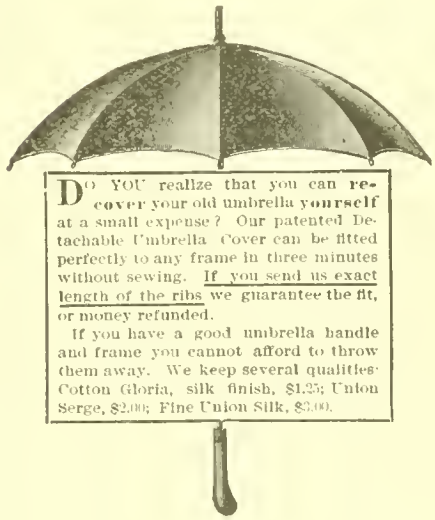
Town meeting was a very protracted meeting lasting until late in the evening, and then adjourned until Friday. The town did not prove to be in favor of license; the vote being No, 572; Yes, 480.

Many times during the day there was a war of words over the most trifling affairs, and at last a general collapse as one of the overseers of the poor refused to qualify. No one seemed to know just what was to be done, but every thing will come straight in the end.

An old gentleman rather lame, who rode from the North Village into town the other day in the barge, was heard to say, "Liberty! If I had to ride in this thing a great deal I should vote for the electric cars pretty quick."

Peter Connue is a man of great patience. He is very much interested in raising hens. Last year when the chicks were hatched he put them under brooders kept warm by lamps, but the brooders caught fire and burnt up, while some of the chicks were roasted with their feathers on. This year he built a brooder 40 feet long and had it heated by steam. He put 50 eggs into his incubater and waited. Only two sickly little chicks appeared and he thinks they may have roasted this year before their feathers grew. But Peter has'nt given up.

LEOM.



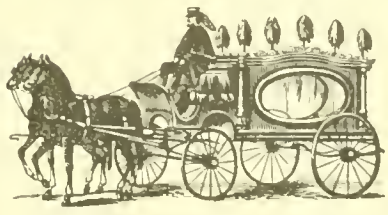
DO YOU realize that you can **recover** your old umbrella **yourself** at a small expense? Our patented Detachable Umbrella Cover can be fitted perfectly to any frame in three minutes without sewing. If you send us exact length of the ribs we guarantee the fit, or money refunded.

If you have a good umbrella handle and frame you cannot afford to throw them away. We keep several qualities: Cotton Gloria, silk finish, $1.25; Union Serge, $2.00; Fine Union Silk, $3.00.

FOR SALE BY

Chamberlain, Huntress & Co.

147 MAIN STREET.



H. A. LESURE. F. D. LESURE

LESURE BROS.,

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

AND EMBALMERS,

46 DAY ST., FITCHBURG, MASS.

Night calls answered from residence in rear of store. Telephone connection.

CITY OF FITCHBURG.

NOTICE!

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the the Public Statutes, that George H. Cole & Son have applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as Innholders, at No. 130 & 132 Main street, in said Fitchburg, in the whole of said building known as "American House," stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Frank W. Judkins has applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as an Innholder at No. 369 Main street, in said Fitchburg, in the whole of said building known as "Fitchburg Hotel," stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Joseph E. Jacques & Co., have applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as Innholders, at No. 398 & 400 Main street, in said Fitchburg, in the whole of said building known as "National House," stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Joseph T. Battles & Co., have applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as Innholders, at No. 361 Main street, in said Fitchburg, in the whole of said building known as "Emory House," stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Horace E. Jennison has applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as an Innholder at No. 407 Main street in said building known as "Hotel Jennison," stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Gilbert H. Derby has applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as an Innholder at No. 99 Main street, and Railroad Square, in said Fitchburg, in the whole of said building known as "Derby House," stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that James B. Shannon has applied for a First Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as an Innholder at No. 93 Main street, and Railroad Square, in said Fitchburg, in the whole of said building known as "Old Colony House," stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the public Statutes, that George O'Neil has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common Victualler of the First Class, at No. 12 North street, in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Robert L. Walsh & Co. have applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as common Victuallers of the First Class, at No. 116 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Shea & Kennedy have applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as common Victuallers of the First Class, at No. 175 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Henry McGrath has applied for a license to sell Intoxicating Liquors as common Victuallers of the First Class, at No 184 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Thomas Burke has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common Victualler of the First Class, at No 194 Water street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Martin Walsh has applied for a license to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common Victualler of the First Class, at No. 220 Water street, in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Daniel F. Hession has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common Victualler of the First Class, at No 31 River street, West Fitchburg, in front room first floor stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Charles H. May has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common victualler of the First Class, at No 5 Westminster street, in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that John F. Bradley has applied for a license to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common victualler of the Second Class, at No. 226½ Water street, in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the public Statutes, that Daniel Moriarty has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a common Victualler of the Second Class, on Water street, South Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of saidbuilding.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Joseph E. Jaques & Co. have applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors at No. 398 & 400 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Daniel F. Hession has applied for a license of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors at No. 31 River street in West Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Robert L. Walsh & Co. have applied for a Fourth Class License to sell Intoxicating Liquors at No. 116 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Henry McGrath has applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors at No. 184 Water street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that George H Cole & Son have applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors at No. 130 & 132 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Satutes, that Shea & Kennedy have applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors, at No 175 Main street in said Fitchburg, in front room first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Frank W. Judkins has applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors, at No. 369 Main street in said Fitchburg, in rear room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes; that Parfait Allen has applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors, at Junction Bemis Road & Dover streets, South Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Pliny Gates has applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Grocer, at No. 15 Summer street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that M. A. Hanigan & Co., have applied for a License of the Fourth Class to sell Intoxicating Liquors as Wholesale Dealers at No. 23 Morris street in said Fitchburg, in front room, first floor, stock in cellar of said building.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Philorome Duquet has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist, of the Sixth Class at 152 Water street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Herbert C. Gross & Co have applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as Druggists, of the Sixth Class, at 144 Water street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Henry G. Greene has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 122 Main street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that T. S. Maloon has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 174 Main street

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Henry F. Boutwell has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 189 Main street

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Henry A. Estabrooks has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 196 Main street

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, the D. Henry Joel has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 207 Main street

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Albert H. Burgess has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist of the Sixth Class, at 248 Main street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Macurda & Sawyer have applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as Druggists, of the Sixth Class, at 365 Main streets.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that James P. Derby has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating liquors as a druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 375 Main street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Henry F. Rockwell has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 401 Main street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that F. H. Fenwick, Manager, has applied for a License to sell Intoxicating Liquors as a Druggist, of the Sixth Class, at 16 Westminster street.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN under Chapter 100 of the Public Statutes, that Adelard Giroux has applied for a License to sell intoxicating Liquors as Druggists, of the Sixth Class, at 425 Main street.

Per order of Board of Aldermen,
WALTER A. DAVIS, City Clerk.
Fitchburg, April 7, 1891.

LUMBER.

MARTIN WEBBER,

NEWTON PLACE.

Building Finish of all kinds; Framing Timber, full supply; all grades of Covering Boards, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Window and Doorframes, Brackets of all kinds, Stair Newels, Rails and Balusters, of various and Latest Patterns.

Call and see goods and get prices. We seldom fail to please.

D. W. TINSLEY, MANAGER

ECONOMY IN FUEL

BY THE USE OF THE

GAS CO'S PREPARED

COKE!

The Gas Company now has

PREPARED COKE ON HAND.

A Chaldron of Prepared Coke will weigh 1400 pounds.

A Pound of Coke will give as much Heat as a Pound of Coal.

EUGENE F. STONE.

CARRIAGE PAINTER,

BETWEEN

BROOK AND VINE STS.

Entrance on Vine St.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

SUPERB EQUIPMENT, EXCELLENT TRAIN SERVICE, FAST TIME, and COURTEOUS EMPLOYEES MAKE THE

Hoosac Tunnel Route

THE FAVORITE LINE to Troy, Albany, Saratoga, Lake George, Adirondack and Catskill Mountains, Syracuse, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls, Hamilton, Toronto, Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and all points West, Southwest, and Northwest.

FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

With elegant PALACE PARLOR and SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and CHICAGO,

AND

BOSTON and ST. LOUIS,

VIA

NIAGARA FALLS,

without change.

THE POPULAR ROUTE for all points in Northern New York, Vermont, and Canada.

THE ONLY LINE running through cars, without change, to Rutland, Brandon, Middlebury, Vergennes and Burlington, Vt.

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ELEGANT PALACE SLEEPING CARS to and from

BOSTON and MONTREAL,

without change.

For Local or Through Time-Tables, Parlor and Sleeping Car accommodations, or further information, apply to any Ticket Agent of the Fitchburg Railroad.

J. R. WATSON, General Pass. Agent.

LOCAL TIME TABLE.

FITCHBURG RAILROAD.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 6.30, 7.30, 8.23 and 9.00 a. m.; 12.17, 1.35, 2.55, 4.00, 5.30, 7.57 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 8.25.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 8.40 and 9.51 a. m.; 1.32, 4.26, 6.55 and 8.38 p. m.

Trains leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.45, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00, 11.30 a. m.; 3.00, 3.05, 4.30, 6.00, 7.00 p. m. Wednesday and Saturday nights only at 11.15.

CHESHIRE DIVISION.

Trains leave Fitchburg for Bellows Falls at 9.33 a. m.; 1.26, 4.45 and 8.38 p. m.

SUNDAY TRAINS.

Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 4.10, 7.00, 7.30, 8.23 a. m.; 4.00 and 5.40 p. m.

Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 9.00 a. m.; 1.05, 3.00 and 7.00 p. m.

Leave Fitchburg for the West at 4.26 p. m.

OLD COLONY RAILROAD.

NORTHERN DIVISION.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT JAN. 12, 1891

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Boston at 6.25, 7.25 and 9.00 a. m., 12.15, 3.25 and 5.25 p. m.

LEAVE BOSTON

For Fitchburg, from Boston & Albany R. R. Depot, at 7.00, and 10.55 a. m., 2.20, 4.30, 5.25 and 11.00 p. m.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Taunton, New Bedford, Providence, Fall River and Newport at 7.25 a. m., 12.15 and 3.25 p. m.

For New York, via Fall River, at 3.25 p. m.

For Leominster at 6.15, 6.25, 7.25, 8.10, 9.00 a.m., 12.15, 1.00, 3.25, 5.25, 6.15, *9.00 p. m.

*—On Saturdays this train will run 30 minutes later than above time.

LEAVE FITCHBURG

For Worcester at 8.10 a. m., 1.00, ‡3.25 and 6.15 p. m. Sundays at ‡7.10 a. m.

LEAVE WORCESTER

For Fitchburg at 6.10, ‡8.10 and 11.30 a. m., ‡2.25 and 4.50 p. m. Sundays at ‡4.50 p. m.

‡Via Clinton.

SUNDAY TRAINS.—Leave Fitchburg for Boston at 7.10 a. m. Leave Boston for Fitchburg at 6.00 p. m.

J. R. KENDRICK, Gen. Manager.
. N. MARSHALL, Div. Supt.

SUNDAY SERVICES

[Published by request. All societies will be accommodated if copy is furnished by 9 a. m. Friday.]

First Parish (Unitarian) Church, Main street, corner of Prospect. Services at 10.30 a. m., preaching by Rev. J. H. Crooker, of Madison, Wis. Sunday School at 11.45. All are welcome.

The C. C. Church (Congregational), Main street, corner of Rollstone, Rev. Clarence R. Gale pastor, residence The Wesley; 10 a.m., German service, sermon by Rev. S. Herman Schwab; 10.30, service of worship with sermon by Rev. L. M. Keneston of Ashburnham; 12 m., Bible School; 4 p. m., Swedish service with sermon; 6, young people's meeting; 7, The Gospel service with sermon by Rev. Mr. Keneston. All are cordially invited.

First Baptist church, Main street, opposite post office. Rev. Frank Rector pastor, residence 101 Prichard street. Morning service at 10.30 a. m., sermon by the pastor, subject, "Inheritance of Truth." At 12 m., Sunday School; 7. p m. service of praise and prayer. All are welcome.

Christ Church (Episcopal), Main street, between Hartwell and Fox, Rev. C. M. Addison, rector, residence 51 Fox street. Morning prayer, litany and sermon at 10.30 a.m., Sunday School at 12 m., evening prayer and sermon at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

Methodist Episcopal Church, corner Fox and Elm streets, Rev. Jesse Wagner pastor, residence. 24 Hartwell street. Preaching at 10.30 by the pastor; Sunday School at 12; Young People's Epworth meets at 6 p. m.; prayer meeting at 7 p. m. All are cordially welcome.

First Universalist Church, Day street, corner of Union, Rev. F. O. Hall, pastor, residence 33 Adams street. Service at 10.30 a. m., Sermon by the pastor. Sunday school 12 m. Evening services at 7 p. m. All are welcome.

The Berean Church will hold services in Y. M. C. A. hall, corner of Main and Oliver streets, at 10.30 a. m., sermon; Sunday School at 12 m; evening service at 7 p. m. All are cordially invited.

Rollstone Church (Congregational), corner of Main and Snow Sts. Rev. C. S. Brooks, pastor, resides No. 14 Mt. Vernon St. Morning Service at 10.30 a. m. sermon by the pastor; 12 m. Sunday School; 7 p. m., series of sermons by the pastor on "Living Questions;" second sermon, topic "Does Prayer Conflict with Law?" Public cordially invited.

THE BANNER CONTEST.

At noon Friday the following lodges, orders, societies, etc., were represented in the banner contest. The lodges are arranged so that the one receiving most votes comes first. The contest is open to every organization using a banner or a flag. The winning lodge may, if it so decides, have some other article of regalia or paraphernalia in place of the banner or flag:

Fitchburg Lodge, K. of H.,	*131*
Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. & A. M.,	*58*
Clark S. Simonds' Camp, S. of V.,	*48*
Aurora Lodge, F. & A. M.,	*1*
Nashua Tribe, No. 37, I. O. R. M.,	*29*
Apollo Lodge, I. O. O. F.,	*7*
Washington Guards, 6th Regt.,	*3*
Court City of Fitchburg, A. O. O. F. of A.,	*1*
Mt. Roulstone Lodge, I. O. O. F.,	*1*
Lady Emma Chapter, O. E. S.,	*1*

Votes may be left at the stores of T. S. Maloon & Co., Main street, or D. H. Pierce, Main street. A box has been provided in front of our office, in which to deposit the votes. The contest closes May 30, but votes will be accepted up to June 3. A few back numbers on hand.

THE

Town Talk Banner

WILL BE MADE BY

The Boston Regalia Co.,

10 TEMPLE PLACE, BOSTON, MASS.

AND WILL BE WORTH

$75.00.

They are Manufacturers and Dealers in all kinds of

SOCIETY REGALIA

FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

GOLD AND SILVER TRIMMINGS.

Swords, Belts, Chapeaux, Helmets, Caps, Embroideries, Knots, Straps, Banners, Flags, Badges, Jewels, Paraphernalia, etc.

THEATRICAL GOODS.

Call and see them before purchasing elsewhere. They only ask a comparison of goods and prices.

BALL, PARTY & RECEPTION BADGES.

Fill out the Vote on the other side.

M. W. CUMMINGS,

Undertaker & Embalmer.

MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN

COFFINS, CASKETS, AND FUNERAL FURNISHINGS.

ROOMS AT 211 MAIN STREET.

RESIDENCE, 76 LAUREL ST.

Chairs to let for Funerals and other occasions.

TELEPHONE.

211 Main St., - - - FITCHBURG, MASS.

E. C. STOWE,

DEALER IN

LEAD, JAPANS,

OIL,

SHELLACS, PAINTS,

VARNISHES.

HOUSE PAINTING, HARD OIL FINISH, GRAINING, VARNISHING, ETC.

302 MAIN STREET, FITCHBURG, MASS.

IMPORTANT TO SOCIETY MEN!

Your organization needs a Banner! TOWN TALK with your help will furnish a $75.00 one at a very small outlay on your part. Send in your votes and help your organization to be the winner in the

BANNER CONTEST

—IN—

TOWN TALK.

Fill out the above blanks with the Name of the Lodge, Society or Organization for which you wish to vote, cut out the vote and send to TOWN TALK office, or leave at the stores of D. H. Pierce, 185 Main St., and T. S. Maloon & Co., 174 Main St.

See other side of vote.

COMING EVENTS

MONDAY.

"The Wife" at the opera house.

WEDNESDAY.

"Fat Men's Club" at the opera house.

Daughter of Veterans basket party at G. A. R., hall.

Amateur Minstrels at city hall.

THURSDAY.

Spiritualists' dance at G. A. R., hall.

FRIDAY.

Mrs. Howard's ball at city hall.

SATURDAY.

"Hands Across the Sea" at the opera house.

TOWN TALK!

FURNITURE!

CASH OR CREDIT.

GATELY & CO.

50 DAY STREET.

PLENTY OF

PIE STOCK

AT THE O. L. P. G.

BLUEBERRIES,
2 Cans for 25 c.

One Gal. Cans Best
BALDWIN APPLES,
33 c.

NICE EVAPORATED APPLE AND APRICOTS.

CANNED SQUASH, PUMPKIN and PEACHES.

HEADQUARTERS

—FOR—

PURE MAPLE SUGAR AND SYRUP,

BEST

FLOUR AND BUTTER.

J. A. Joslin, 16 & 20 Day St.

FERDINAND & AUSTIN,

Liberal House Furnishers

True Sayings are Appreciated. *Bargains are Appreciated.*

CARPETS. CARPETS.

Such reliable makes as Ivins, Dietz & Magee, Lowell Mfg. Co., Roxbury Carpet Co., and a dozen other reliable makes, in the latest choicest patterns.

Dundee Carpet, only 21½ cts. per yard.

Ten pieces of Ingrain Carpets, exceedingly low prices.

RUGS. RUGS.

Smyrna Rugs, 25 per cent. off list price.

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